

THERS
Interdisciplinary Frontier Next Generation
Researcher
Application Guidelines
(for Nagoya University students)
(New Recruitment)

○ Qualified Enrollment Year

AY2023 (2nd Recruitment)

Doctoral Course	Scheduled entrants in April 2023 Scheduled entrants in October 2023
Doctoral Course in Medicine	Scheduled second-year student in April 2023 Scheduled second-year student in October 2023

AY2024 (1st Recruitment)

Doctoral Course	Scheduled entrants in April 2024
Doctoral Course in Medicine	Scheduled second-year student in April 2024

*For details other than the above, refer to 4. Application Qualifications.

January 2023

THERS Interdisciplinary Frontier Next Generation Researcher
Application Guidelines (New Recruitment)
【AY2023 (2nd Recruitment)/ AY2024 (1st Recruitment)】

1. Purpose

The THERS Interdisciplinary Frontier Next Generation Researcher Program (hereinafter referred to as “the Program”) aims to resolve various issues facing Japan and the world, and to develop doctoral human resources who will lead a future knowledge-based society. Doctoral students are already at the forefront of research and supporting the foundation of university research. The Program will provide financial support to such excellent students, and provide courses for them to acquire the skills required by companies, etc., thereby creating an environment in which they can devote themselves to their research without having to worry about employment.

In addition, by providing opportunities for interaction with doctoral students with different specialties, mentors with different values, and graduates of the program for leading graduate schools who serve as role models, the Program encourages the development of new research based on original ideas and the creation of interdisciplinary research.

The Program is implemented by JST’s Challenging Research Program for Next Generation Researchers, and the Tokai National Higher Education and Research System (THERS). The contents of the Program may be subject to change due to changes in JST’s program.

2. Fields Open to Applications (Four (4) fields)

There are four fields. Each field has its own vision for the human resources it wishes to develop (See Appendix 1)

I: Bioscience, II: Interdisciplinary & Ground-breaking Sciences,
III: Decarbonization & Environment, IV. Glocal Research

Points to Note

- You can apply for any field regardless of your graduate school or major.
- Select your first to third choice of application fields. (However, second and third choices are optional.)

3. Number of applicants to be accepted

	AY2023 (2nd Recruitment)	AY2024 (1st Recruitment)
Bioscience	Approximately 20	Approximately 16
Interdisciplinary & Ground-breaking Sciences	Approximately 10	Approximately 12
Decarbonization & Environment	Approximately 15	Approximately 12
Glocal Research	Approximately 10	Approximately 8

*The numbers to be recruited in the various fields are estimates, and may be adjusted among fields depending on the state of applications.

4. Application Qualifications

Applicants to the Program must be persons who meet (1) – (3) below (including international students).

< For AY2023 2nd Recruitment >

- Doctoral Course—Expected to enroll in April or October 2023**
- Doctoral Course in Medicine—Scheduled second-year student in April or October 2023**

< For AY2024 1st Recruitment >

- Doctoral Course—Expected to enroll in April 2024**
- Doctoral Course in Medicine—Scheduled second-year student in April 2024**

(1) Enrollment Required

< For AY2023 2nd Recruitment >

Individuals who wish to enroll Nagoya University's Doctoral Course or Doctoral Course in Medicine and who enrolled in the Doctoral Course (or second year of the Doctoral Course in Medicine) in April or October 2023

< For AY2024 1st Recruitment >

Individuals who wish to enroll Nagoya University's Doctoral Course or Doctoral Course in Medicine and who enrolled in the Doctoral Course (or second year of the Doctoral Course in Medicine) in April 2024

- (2) An individual who does not fall under any of the following at the time of admission to the Doctoral Course (or second year in the case of the Doctoral Course in Medicine)
- (i) A student who is deemed to be receiving stable income from their university or company, such as a salary or executive remuneration, at a level sufficient to cover living

expenses (approximately 2.4 million yen/year)

- (ii) International student receiving the Monbukagakusho Scholarship
- (iii) International student receiving scholarships from their home country
- (iv) An individual in the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science's Research Fellowship for Young Scientists

*If you are offered a position in a project (2) to (4) above, you must withdraw from this Program (The THERS Interdisciplinary Frontier Next Generation Researcher Program).

- (3) An individual who has not applied for the Nagoya University Interdisciplinary Frontier Fellowship (AY2023 2nd Recruitment or AY2024 1st Recruitment)

Points to Note

- If you plan to receive support from another organizations during the support period of the Program, check with the office of the scholarship or the academic affairs officer of the graduate school to which you belong whether or not you can receive both.
- This recruitment is related to the Researcher Program, and in order to receive the support from the program and enroll in Nagoya University, you must pass the entrance examination separately conducted by each graduate school.
- If you do not enroll or advance to the Doctoral Course (or advance to the 2nd year in the Doctoral Course in Medicine) at the time you selected when you input application information registration, qualification to receive the support under the Program will be disqualified.

5. Researcher Grant (hereinafter referred to as the "Grant")

Researchers receive the following financial grants:

- (1) Research support grant: ¥180,000 per month

In principle, the grant is transferred to the individual's account by the end of each month. As this income is classified as miscellaneous income, a tax return* is required every year.

* International students may not be required to file a tax return by following tax treaty procedures.

- (2) Research expenses ¥250,000 annually

The University manages research expenses. Expenditures will be made in accordance with the University's accounting procedures and the student's research projects.

* The University may increase the amount of both (1) the research support grant and (2)

research expenses if the recipient is selected as an excellent Researcher based on the results of QE1 Note 1 and QE2 Note 2, etc. conducted in the 1st or 2nd year of the Doctoral Course (or a year higher for the Doctor of Medicine Course students.)

Note 1: Qualifying Examination 1 (Doctoral Course Year 1: Review of Potential to complete the standard term of study, planning status of international joint research and interdisciplinary research, and confirmation of at least IELTS 5.5 or equivalent)

Note 2: Qualifying Examination 2 (Doctoral Course Year 2: Review of Potential to complete the standard term of study, implementation status of international joint research and interdisciplinary research, and confirmation of at least IELTS 6.0 or equivalent (International students are required to pass at least Japanese Language Proficiency Test N2 or equivalent in addition to holding the required level of English proficiency))

6. Pay period

The research immersion support period is three years maximum. (However, the payment period may be shortened if the payment suspension/stoppage requirement is met.)

7. Application documents

- (1) THERS Interdisciplinary Frontier Next Generation Researcher Application (Form 1)
- (2) Research Outline (Form 2)
- (3) Academic Advisor Evaluation (Form 3)
- (4) Application Outline Video (For details, see the attached “About Creating a Video”)

8. Application process

Please follow a separate document "Nagoya University interdisciplinary Frontier Fellowship/THERS Interdisciplinary Frontier Next Generation Researcher Application Guidelines" to apply to the recruitment.

Application Information Registration Period: from January 23 (Mon) to 14:00, February 6 (Mon) 2023

Upload Application Document Period: from February 2 (Thu) to 14:00, February 14 (Tue) 2023

9. Screening and results

(1) Screening

We will conduct a 1st screening (document and video screening) and a 2nd screening (interview screening). However, depending on their 1st screening results, some

applicants who pass the 1st screening may be exempted from the 2nd screening and be accepted based only on the 1st screening. The 2nd screening (interview screening) is conducted for those who pass the 1st screening (document and video screening), except for those who are exempted from the 2nd screening.

The screening will basically be conducted based on your first choice field. However, this may be changed to your second or third choice field, depending on the state of applications.

Points to Note

- The 2nd screening (interview screening) will be conducted on the following dates and times. Note that we cannot accept any requests for a specific date and time.
- Interviewees will be notified in the same manner as in “(3) Notification of results”, “Notification methods”.

Interview screening dates:

Field	Interview Dates
Bioscience	Friday, March 24 PM
Interdisciplinary & Ground-breaking Sciences	Friday, March 31 PM
Decarbonization & Environment	Friday, March 24 PM
Glocal Research	Thursday, March 23 PM

- Applicants will be notified about 2-3 days prior to the interview date.
- Conducted online

(2) Screening policy

Evaluation items are as follows and will be evaluated based on individual factors. Refer to the Appendix 1 for the Screening criteria for each field.

- (i) Applicants have the ability to conduct joint research with leading research institutions and companies, including those overseas, or to conduct challenging research in interdisciplinary research areas.
- (ii) Applicants must be sufficiently expected to become capable doctoral human resources in the future.
- (iii) Applicants must bring unique research methods, and research targets must be set

appropriately within the standard period of study.

- (iv) Applicants must be clearly aware of their career path after obtaining their doctorate and demonstrate the ability to cultivate the capabilities needed over the standard period of study.
- (v) Standard to be set in each field

(3) Notification of results

Successful candidates will be notified as follows. Only successful candidates will be notified.

Notification of results: Thursday, April 13
--

Notification methods

Notification via the email address registered at the time of application.

10. Obligations of Researchers

As recipients of financial grants, Researchers assume the following obligations.

- (1) Submission of a report on research for the year and a research activity plan for the following year and thereafter.
- (2) Interview with an academic advisor, mentor, or career counselor.
- (3) Application to the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science's Research Fellowship for Young Scientists
- (4) QE1 and QE2 examination.
- (5) Participation in lectures, training, seminars, etc. certified by subject fields (See Appendix 1).
- (6) Training on the use of public funds and participation in research ethics education designated by the University.
- (7) Registration of data on the implementation status of obligations in designated systems.
- (8) Cooperation with inquiries after the Researcher period.
- (9) Other matters required by the University.

11. Suspension of grant payments

Grant payments will be suspended if any of the following apply.

- (1) Withdrawal, expulsion, or transfer from the University.
- (2) Suspension from the University.

- (3) Poor academic performance.
- (4) Failure to report research results for each year.
- (5) Existence of a reason why grant payments are deemed no longer necessary.
- (6) Application qualification (3) (i) – (iv) is met
- (7) Existence of facts other than (1) – (6) that are inappropriate for a Researcher.

12. Returning grant funds

If there are grant funds that were received despite the individual being ineligible due to the suspension or stoppage of payment, the portion of the funds paid that the individual is not eligible to receive must be returned to the University.

13. Obligation to cooperate with inquiries after the researchership ends

This system is operated with assistance from MEXT's Challenging Research Program for Next Generation Researchers. Therefore, surveys may be conducted on participants' current employment status etc. for 10 years following the end of the Program. The Researcher's name, graduate school, period of support, research theme, and contact information (e-mail address) will be provided to the Japan Science and Technology Agency.

Previous participants may be contacted even after the Researcher period has ended. If your address, place of employment, email address, and so on has changed, be sure to contact the relevant office at the University.

Inquiries regarding Interdisciplinary Frontier Next
Generation Researcher
Education Planning Division, Education &
International Affairs Department
Doctoral Education Consortium
Inquiry Form

<https://dec.nagoya-u.ac.jp/inquiry/top>



THERS Interdisciplinary Frontier Next Generation Research Program (Interdisciplinary Frontier Next Generation Researcher)

Interdisciplinary Frontier Next Generation Researcher								
	I. Bioscience	II. Interdisciplinary & Ground-breaking Sciences	III. Decarbonization & Environment	IV. Global Research				
Objectives of the program / Image of researchers to be fostered	This category covers all research fields related to life science and medical science. Life science and medical science research have provided various benefits to humankind. In order to solve more complex problems in the future, we need doctoral researchers who have the ability to think and act from a broader perspective. Utilizing the strengths of the THERS, which has a high level of research capability in this field, the Program aims to nurture doctoral human resources who will be at the forefront of solving various issues facing the world through challenging and international research.	The goal of this research category is to develop doctoral personnel who can go back to basic principles in order to grasp the essence of nature and society, redefine current issues into feasible research questions, and seek solutions through fresh ideas and logical thinking. We believe that true innovation begins with a return to these basic principles. The main target fields are basic sciences, especially mathematical and physical sciences, linguistics, and historical and cultural anthropology. The program expects researchers to work at resonance and fusion among mathematics, space, humanity, civilization, society, life, matter, and elementary particles studies.	The government of Japan set the target of "reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions to zero by 2050." This target addresses global issues such as climate change including global warming, resource recycling to deal with waste management, and urban regeneration based on coexistence with nature. The program aims to foster doctoral students who can contribute to solving global-scale issues, including the realization of a decarbonized society. The Graduate School of Environmental Studies and the Future Earth Research Center at Nagoya University, the Research Center for Adaptation to Regional Environmental Changes and the Research Center for Watershed Science at Gifu University will support researchers through their advanced research. In particular, we expect researchers to be either specialists with a strong expertise. The two universities participated in the "University Coalition to Achieving Carbon Neutrality" established on July 29, 2021. The THERS created the Carbon Neutral Promotion Office on November 1, 2021. These arrangements will enhance cooperation with universities and research institutes in Japan, the national government, local governments, and companies. The program expects researchers to exploit research opportunities coming out of this cooperation.	This research category aims to nurture students' leadership qualities in promoting sustainable local development through global perspectives, as exemplified by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The main target groups are social science students doing policy-oriented studies, as well as natural science students willing to contribute to sustainable local development through applied research. The contributions to sustainable local development should not be conceived narrowly within a country's domestic context, but have broader, global implications.				
Screening criteria	<p><Common to all fields></p> <p>(1) Applicants have the ability to conduct joint research with leading research institutions and companies, including those overseas, or to conduct challenging research in interdisciplinary research areas.</p> <p>(2) Applicants must be sufficiently expected to become capable doctoral human resources in the future.</p> <p>(3) Applicants must bring unique research methods, and research targets must be set appropriately within the standard period of study.</p> <p>(4) Applicants must be clearly aware of their career path after obtaining their doctorate and demonstrate the ability to cultivate the capabilities needed over the standard period of study.</p> <p><Field-specific criteria></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>I. Bioscience To have the ability to clarify the significance of one's own research in solving global social and scientific issues, and the ability to develop life science and medical science research from a broad perspective to achieve this</td> <td>II. Interdisciplinary & Ground-breaking Sciences Consideration is given to the academic value of the applicant's research as basic research, and to the expansion to interdisciplinary research and international joint research based on it.</td> <td>III. Decarbonization & Environment To achieve carbon neutrality in 2050 or to solve global environmental issues (climate change, resource recycling, coexistence with nature, urban and rural regeneration, etc.), we need research capabilities based on multiple perspectives. In other words, researchers should have the potential to become either a specialist with an understanding of other fields or a generalist with</td> <td>IV. Global Research Researchers should be willing to realize a more diverse society through cross-cultural understanding and the promotion of SDGs, and be able to clarify their research initiatives that contribute to the development of local communities.</td> </tr> </table>				I. Bioscience To have the ability to clarify the significance of one's own research in solving global social and scientific issues, and the ability to develop life science and medical science research from a broad perspective to achieve this	II. Interdisciplinary & Ground-breaking Sciences Consideration is given to the academic value of the applicant's research as basic research, and to the expansion to interdisciplinary research and international joint research based on it.	III. Decarbonization & Environment To achieve carbon neutrality in 2050 or to solve global environmental issues (climate change, resource recycling, coexistence with nature, urban and rural regeneration, etc.), we need research capabilities based on multiple perspectives. In other words, researchers should have the potential to become either a specialist with an understanding of other fields or a generalist with	IV. Global Research Researchers should be willing to realize a more diverse society through cross-cultural understanding and the promotion of SDGs, and be able to clarify their research initiatives that contribute to the development of local communities.
I. Bioscience To have the ability to clarify the significance of one's own research in solving global social and scientific issues, and the ability to develop life science and medical science research from a broad perspective to achieve this	II. Interdisciplinary & Ground-breaking Sciences Consideration is given to the academic value of the applicant's research as basic research, and to the expansion to interdisciplinary research and international joint research based on it.	III. Decarbonization & Environment To achieve carbon neutrality in 2050 or to solve global environmental issues (climate change, resource recycling, coexistence with nature, urban and rural regeneration, etc.), we need research capabilities based on multiple perspectives. In other words, researchers should have the potential to become either a specialist with an understanding of other fields or a generalist with	IV. Global Research Researchers should be willing to realize a more diverse society through cross-cultural understanding and the promotion of SDGs, and be able to clarify their research initiatives that contribute to the development of local communities.					
Lectures, training, seminars, etc. common to all fields [Required]	<p>[1] QE1 and QE2 examinations [Screening items: Degree completion within the standard period of study/Interdisciplinary research & international joint research/Language ability]</p> <p>[2] Preparation of PR video on research etc. [Japanese or English] (D2)</p> <p>[3] Preparation of PR video on research, etc. [Language other than 2] (The international students who used English at D2 can choose either Japanese or first language except English) (D3)</p> <p>[4] "Interdisciplinary Frontier Doctoral Human Resources Exchange Session (D1)" or "Business and Doctoral Human Resources Exchange Session" (D1-D3)</p> <p>[5] Interaction with mentors etc. for career development. (Details will be announced later.)</p> <p>*For a four-year doctoral course, the year listed is one year higher.</p>							
Elective requirements	Criteria	*Students must gain at least 20 Research Points (RPs) during the research period, chosen from their elective requirements			Maximum points			
		Parentheses: Indicates the number of points each time. Maximum points: Students may take more classes than the maximum number of points, but only the maximum number of points will be counted as their total points.						
	Seminars, etc.	<p>[1] Take professional literacy training (Transferable Skills Training) (2RPs) (May also be taken during the Master's Course.)</p> <p>[2] Take language training organized by the Doctoral Education Consortium (2RPs)</p> <p>[3] Take paper writing seminar organized by the Doctoral Education Consortium (2RPs)</p> <p>[4] Take B-jin seminar, PhD career path webinar (career development seminar) (0.5RP per 90- to 120-minute session)</p> <p>[5] Seminars approved by the Subcommittee or the Doctoral Education Consortium (e.g. science communication lectures and exercises, PI training seminars, video viewing) (0.5RP per 90- to 120-minute session)</p>			6RPs			
	Internships	Companies, other universities, research institutes, local governments, international organizations, NGOs & NPOs, etc. Between 2 weeks and 2 months from the first time until completion, calculated roughly at 8 hours a day, between 80 and 320 hours (10RPs). For overseas, from 1 week is allowed. At least 2 months from the first time until completion (20RPs)			20RPs			
	Study abroad, etc.	[1] Academic conferences, joint research, laboratory meetings, overseas volunteer work, training and study abroad (10RPs) International students are recommended to travel outside their home country. If staying for a long time, you may count RPs under the abovementioned internships. For international conference presentations, you may count RPs under the following research presentations.			20RPs			
	Research presentation, awards	<p>[1] First author's presentation at an international conference (5RPs) and first author's presentation at a domestic conference (2RPs)</p> <p>[2] Winning an award (1 to 5RPs: 3RPs for academic conference poster award etc., 5RPs for an application etc.)</p> <p>[3] First author's paper accepted in a peer-reviewed journal (10RPs, or 20RPs for Web of Science or Scopus Q1 journals), paper by author other than the first author accepted (4RPs, or 8RPs for Web of Science or Scopus Q1 journals), and other outcomes recognized by the Subcommittee (10RPs, or 2RPs if recognized as outstanding by the Subcommittee)</p>			10RPs (Special exception: 20RPs for Q1 journals, etc.)			
	Student team experiences	<p>[1] Planning and implementation of seminars (10RPs)</p> <p>[2] Presentation at idea/business contest (10RPs) If an award is won, points are also added for winning the abovementioned awards.</p> <p>[3] Planning and management of events conducted in this Program (15RPs)</p>			20RPs			
	Joint research, interdisciplinary research (Understanding of other fields, etc.)	<p>[1] 100-nin Rombun (5RPs), if proceeding to a meeting with the researcher (5RPs added)</p> <p>[2] If an exchange meeting between a company and a doctoral student leads to a company visit (3RPs added)</p> <p>[3] Exchange event held with the Subcommittee (max. 5RPs)</p> <p>[4] Credit earned from seminar course (Research discussion with other graduate schools, equivalent to 15 classes) (1 course, 5RPs)</p> <p>[5] Industry-Government-Academia- Finance collaboration session, organized by Gifu University (max. 5RPs)</p> <p>[6] Retreat training conducted for the WISE Program and the Leading Graduate School Program students (8RPs)</p> <p>[7] When a WISE Program student passes the WISE Program QE (RPs under review)</p>			20RPs			
Activities organized by DEC	This category covers the cross field events to enhance interdisciplinary research, hands-on activities for career development and workshops etc. This category doesn't include the seminars organized by DEC.			7 RPs				