

Hokkaido University Graduate School of Health Sciences
Division of Health Sciences
AY2026 Doctoral Degree Programs Application Guidelines

1. Student Intake

Division of Health Sciences:

Up to a maximum of 10 students in total for the Division (the Doctoral Degree Program in Health Sciences and the Doctoral Degree Program in Nursing)

- 1) We are open to all applications from working adult applicants in Japan and overseas student applicants for the above enrollment limit of 10.
- 2) Applicants shall be advised to contact a faculty member of their desired field of research(see appended list at the end of these guidelines) to discuss research projects before applying.

2. Degree Programs and Major Fields of Study

Division	Degree Program (Course)	Major Field of Study (Education and Research Field)
Division of Health Sciences	Doctoral Degree Program in Health Sciences	Advanced Medical Sciences Comprehensive Health Sciences
	Doctoral Degree Program in Nursing	Nursing Sciences

3. Application Requirements

Home Student Applicants

You must meet one of the requirements 1) – 8) below.

- 1) Applicants who have been awarded a master's degree or professional degree (the term "professional degree" when used hereinafter shall refer to the professional degree prescribed in Article 5-2 of the *Academic Degree Rules* (Ordinance of the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, No. 9 of 1953) under the provision in Article 104, Paragraph 1 of the *School Education Act*). They include those to be awarded one of the aforementioned degrees before enrollment in a doctoral degree program.
- 2) Applicants who have completed a program run by the United Nations University and have been awarded a degree equivalent to a master's degree. They include those who are to be awarded the said degree before enrollment in a doctoral degree program.
- 3) Applicants who have been awarded a degree equivalent to a master's degree or professional degree from a university outside Japan. They include those who are to be awarded the

said degree before enrollment in a doctoral degree program.

- 4) Applicants who have been awarded a degree equivalent to a master's degree or professional degree by taking courses through correspondence from an overseas institute while living in Japan. They include those who are to be awarded the said degree prior to enrollment in a doctoral degree program.
- 5) Applicants who have been awarded a degree equivalent to a master's degree or professional degree after completion of a graduate program of an educational institute in Japan which is accredited to offer graduate programs of an overseas graduate school under the school education system of the country concerned and is also designated by the Minister of Education Culture, Sports, Science and Technology. The eligible applicants include those who are to be awarded the said degree prior to enrollment in a doctoral degree program.
- 6) Applicants who have completed an education program at an overseas institute, the institute designated as described in 5) or the United Nations University, have passed an examination and assessment equivalent to those prescribed in Article 16-2 of the *Standards for Establishment of Graduate Schools* and have gained or are expected to gain by March 2026 the academic competence equivalent or superior to that of a master's degree holder.
- 7) Applicants designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (Ministerial announcement No. 118, Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, 1989) to whom either A or B below applies.
 - A. Bachelor's degree holders with research work experience of 2 years or more at universities or research institutes who have the academic competence equivalent or superior to that of a master's degree holder as having had their research outcomes reviewed by the Graduate School of Health Sciences.
 - B. Persons who:
 - Have their 16-year school education completed in overseas countries or have their 16-year school education of overseas countries completed by taking courses through correspondence from overseas institutes while living in Japan;
 - Have gained two years or more research work experience at universities or research institutes after completion of the above education; and
 - Have the academic competence equivalent to or superior to that of a master's degree holder as having had their research outcomes reviewed by the Graduate School of Health Sciences.
- 8) Applicants who are 24 years of age or older as of March 31, 2026, with academic competence equivalent or superior to that of a master's/professional degree holder based on the assessment "9. Application Review for Qualification Approval" by the Graduate School of Health Sciences.*

*Applicable to non-degree holders who graduated from a polytechnic/technical college, junior/two-year college, specialized training college, other type of school (vocational school), overseas university's satellite college in Japan or school for foreign nationals in Japan.

Note:

Applicants who fall into 7) or 8) in "3. Application Requirements" must go through an application review for qualification approval before applying for a doctoral degree program. Read "9. Application Review for Qualification Approval".

Working Adult Applicants

Applicants who stay on their job after their enrollment in a doctoral program must meet one of the application requirements for “Home Student Applicants” above and have specialized work experience in healthcare (in all aspects) or public health or at welfare facilities, research institutes, educational institutes, government offices or corporates at the time of making an application. Special Measures in the delivery of education under Article 14 of the *Standards for Establishment of Graduate Schools* are available for those who gained admission through the “Working Adult Applicants” screening to facilitate their university studies.

cf. Article 14 of the *Standards for Establishment of Graduate Schools* (excerpt from the Ordinance of the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture No. 28 of 1974)

Article 14 When deemed particularly necessary for the education in a graduate degree program, graduate students may be offered education in a feasible manner such as the delivery of classes and research supervision during night-time hours, specific hours or specific periods.

Overseas Student Applicants

Applicants must meet one of the application requirements listed 3) to 6), 7) B and 8) under “Home Student Applicants”.

And also,

- Applicants hoping for a MEXT (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) scholarship: The scholarship application may require a “letter of consent for acceptance”. The applicant must directly contact a faculty member in his/her desired field of study and request prior consent for acceptance. Upon unofficial approval of the consent, ask the faculty to organize and sign a letter of consent for acceptance.
- Applicants who are self-supported: You must obtain a “recommendation letter from supervising faculty” from a faculty member of your desired field of study.

4. How to Apply

1) Admissions Window (starting date, closing date & time):

From Thursday, July 10 to Thursday, July 17, 2025

Office open: 8:30 am to 5:00 pm (Japan Standard Time. Closed Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays)

Submit the documents listed in 4. 2) in person, or by post to the address in 4. 3) (send by “Kakitome-Sokutatsu” (insured registered express mail) via Japan Post, or its equivalent from overseas). The closing date must be strictly observed.

Application Procedure for Overseas Student Applicants

Please note that your application will not be accepted unless you complete below **Steps 1-3**.

Step 1. Apply Online.

- i) Send an email to kyomu@hs.hokudai.ac.jp to obtain the password to access “HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY Graduate School of Health Sciences Online Application” <https://e->

apply.jp/e/hokudai-hs/

In your email, please indicate whether you are applying for a master's or doctoral degree program.

ii) Go to the above Online Application website "HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY Graduate School of Health Sciences Online Application".

Note:

- Go through the instructions and reminders before making an application. On the top page, click "English" then click "Introduction" to read.
- You need a printer and a contact email address (the one provided by your mobile/cell phone company is not acceptable) through the procedure to make an application, print out the necessary documents and later receive an automatic email notification of payment for the admission exam.

iii) Follow the on-screen instructions to select the option applicable to you or enter the necessary information.

iv) When you have completed the procedure, you will receive an application completion email at your registered e-mail address.

Step 2. Pay your Admissions Exam Fee.

(Exemption applies to the overseas students on the MEXT scholarship and the students pursuing doctoral studies straight after the completion of their master's degree program at Hokkaido University)

i) When you have completed the online application procedure, continue to the payment page. Use one of the following payment methods.

A. Credit card

Enter your credit card number, expiration date, cardholder's name and security code.

B. Pay-easy (using a bank ATM, Japan Post Bank ATM or its online banking service), convenience store or internet banking (PayPay Bank or Rakuten Bank)

a) Pay-easy ATM

Make a note of the payment code (Pay-easy payee number), application number (remitter number) and confirmation number issued after you select a payment institution. Take the note with you to the above payment institution when making your payment at a Pay-easy ATM.

b) Convenience store

Make a note of the application number (remitter number), and the confirmation number or online payment number, issued after you select a payment institution. Take the note with you to the convenience store you selected when you make your payment (there is a list of convenience stores with in-store payment services to pay your Admissions Exam Fee – see our Online Application website).

c) PayPay Bank/Rakuten Bank

Follow the instructions shown on the screen.

C. Payments via the China Union Pay network "China Union Pay"

Type in your bank account number, expiration date, password and other information required on the UnionPay payment page to complete payment.

ii) The required information and the procedures may vary by financial institution. Read the on-screen instructions carefully before making a payment.

A handling fee of 500 yen will apply on top of the Admissions Exam Fee of 30,000 yen when you make the admissions exam fee payment.

Note:

The applicants who reside overseas at the time of application and are unable to pay by credit card or China Union Pay should ask a person in Japan to pay on their behalf using the above method A

or B.

Step 3. Submit the required documents in person or by post.

i) Hand in or send by post your completed application form generated upon completion of the online application process along with all other required documents within the application period. Affix one of the postal address labels printed out with the application form to an envelope if sending by post. The closing date must be strictly observed.

ii) **The application process will be complete when all required documents have been received by our Administrative Office (see 4. 3). Please be advised that your application will not be complete if you have gone through the online application process but have not submitted any hard copy documents to us.**

Step 4. If you need to make inquiries regarding the online application procedures

Please contact us below by e-mail.

Customer Service Center, Career-tasu, Inc.

E-mail: cvs-web@career-tasu.co.jp

2) Required Documents and Admissions Exam Fee

Home student applicants

1	Admissions application form	Use a prescribed admissions application form.
2	Examination admission card and photo card	Use prescribed forms. Fill in with the required information and attach an ID photo (in size 40mm × 30mm, face-to-shoulder shot with no hat and no background, taken within the last three months) to each card. Print your name on the back of the photos.
3	Personal statement	Use a prescribed form.
4	Transcript	Issued by the dean of your graduate school. Not required if you have completed (or expect to complete) a graduate degree program in the Division of Health Sciences at Hokkaido University Graduate School of Health Sciences
5	Completion (or prospective completion) certificate	Not required if you have completed (or expect to complete) a graduate degree program in the Division of Health Sciences at Hokkaido University Graduate School of Health Sciences, or if you fall into 7) or 8) in “3. Application Requirements”
6	TOEFL-iBT Official Score Report	We only accept the original hard copy of the result of the TOEFL-iBT taken within two years before the doctoral admissions exam month (August 2025). DO NOT submit scores from TOEFL-ITP or TOEIC. Not required if you have enrolled in one of the master’s degree programs of the Graduate School of Health Sciences in AY2014 or after. If you cannot submit the original Official Score Report by the application closing date, take a screenshot of your score on the exam organization’s website and submit it. You must also send us the original as soon as it arrives. Please be advised that we will

		cancel your application if you do not send the original by the admissions exam date.
7	Master's thesis abstract (incl. research achievement on specific topics)	<p>Provide a thesis abstract if you hold a master's degree (approximately 2 x A4 pages).</p> <p>Graduates with an expected master's degree should provide abstracts of research projects for their master's thesis (approximately 2 x A4 pages).</p> <p>If you fall into 7) or 8) in "3. Application Requirements", submit a photocopy of the result from "Application Review for Qualification Approval".</p> <p>N.B. Submit an abstract but not the entire thesis here for "7. Master's thesis abstract". The abstract must start with the thesis title and your name.</p>
8	Research achievements	<p>Use the prescribed form.</p> <p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A list of published research papers incl. books you authored and conference presentations (you may add research papers to be published or conference presentations to be made); - Photocopies of the research papers and proceedings which were published in the last five years†. Master's degree holders, please send us a photocopy of your entire master's thesis; - Proof of conference presentation such as conference proceedings or program schedules listing the conference name, date, venue, presentation title and all authors' names†; - Proof of awards (e.g. a photocopy of the award certificate, a published article on the award you received)†; and - Proof of scholarship by a sponsoring government (MEXT or foreign government bodies)†. <p>†Applicable candidates only</p>
9	Admissions exam fee 30,000 yen (MEXT scholarship students and the students pursuing doctoral studies straight after the completion of their master's degree program at Hokkaido University are exempt from the fee)	Use the attached bank transfer form (perforated into five sections, acceptable at post offices and banks) to pay at your local post office or bank branch.
10	Proof of payment form	Fill in your name on the form and attach "Kentei-ryo uketsuke shomei-sho" (the validated portion of the bank transfer form)

		stamped by the post office or bank upon payment of the examination fee) where indicated on the “proof of payment form”.
11	Self-addressed stamped envelope	Write your name and address with your postcode and attach a 110 yen postage stamp on a bound-in envelope (small envelope) included in the back of the application guidelines (printed edition). (We will send you your examination admission card at a later date.)
12	Mailing label	Use a prescribed sticker label sheet. Write your name and address with your postcode on two prescribed labels. We will use them to send you your exam results in September 2025 and admission documents in February 2026. If your address changes after the submission of the required documents, please contact us immediately at Academic Affairs at kyomu@hs.hokudai.ac.jp .
13	Photocopy of residence card or equivalent	Foreign residents in Japan should submit a photocopy of their residence card or an equivalent certificate which verifies their resident status.

Working Adult Applicants

Working adult applicants must submit the following documents in addition to those required of the home student applicants listed above.

14	Letter of approval to study at Hokkaido University (shugaku shodaku-sho)	Use a prescribed form. Must be issued by the head of the department of the organization you work for.
15	Certificate of employment stating the duration of employment (zaishoku kikan shoumei-sho)	A document verifying your job title and the period of employment (format not specified). Not required if you have already submitted a copy through the “Application Review for Qualification Approval” process.

Overseas Student Applicants

Overseas Student Applicants must submit the following documents within the application period.

1	Admissions application form (Nyugaku gansho)	Complete the online form and print out the admissions application form in A4 (this includes your academic CV details). Attach an ID photo (in size 40mm × 30mm, face-to-shoulder shot with no hat and no background, taken within the last three months) to the form.
2	Examination admission card (juken hyo) and photo card (shashin hyo)	Attach an ID photo (in size 40mm x 30 mm, face-to-shoulder shot with no hat and no background taken within the last three months) on the examination admission card and photo card printed out with the admissions application form. Print your name on the back of the photos.
3	Recommendation letter	A recommendation letter from the head of your affiliated

	(suisen sho)	department at your workplace or the principal or faculty of the educational institute you gained your highest educational qualification/attainment from. The letter has to be an original document (not scanned or photocopied) signed by the issuer of the letter in original handwriting (electronic signature not accepted) or officially stamped by the issuing institute.
4	Completion (or prospective completion) certificate (shuryo mikomi) shomei-sho)	<p>Issued by the dean of your graduate school (in English or Japanese)‡</p> <p>‡Those who completed or will complete a graduate degree program in China (it does not include Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau) must submit the following documents in addition to your completion (or prospective completion) certificate.</p> <p><u>Graduates of master's/doctoral degree programs must submit both i) and ii):</u></p> <p>i) Online Verification Report of Higher Education Qualification Certificate (教育部学历证书电子注册备案表); and</p> <p>ii) Graduation certificate (毕业证书) AND diploma (学位证书).</p> <p><u>Prospective graduates of master's/doctoral degree programs must submit:</u></p> <p>i) Online Verification Report of Student Record (教育部学籍在线验证报告).</p> <p>Obtain the above report i) from the site “中国高等教育学历证书查询” https://www.chsi.com.cn/xlcx/bgys.jsp. Make sure that there are 15 days or more left before the expiration date of the online verification at the time of the report submission.</p>
5	Transcript (seiseki shomei-sho)	Issued by the dean of your graduate school (in English or Japanese)
6	Personal statement (shibo riyu-sho)	Use the prescribed form, in approximately 2 x A4 pages (handwritten not accepted)
7	Proof of language proficiency (English and Japanese) (gogaku-ryoku shomei shorui)	<p><u>English language:</u></p> <p>An Official Score Report (original) of TOEFL-iBT or IELTS taken within two years before the doctoral admissions exam month (August 2025). §</p> <p>§Not required if you have enrolled in one of the master's degree programs of the Graduate School of Health Sciences in AY2014 or after.</p> <p>§If you cannot submit the original Official Score Report by the application closing date, take a screenshot of your score on the exam organization's website and submit it. You must also send us the original as soon as it arrives. Please be advised that we</p>

		<p>will cancel your application if you do not send the original by the admissions exam date.</p> <p><u>Japanese language:</u></p> <p>Score sheet of the Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students (EJU); or a certificate of program completion or an attendance affirmation of the Japanese language program provided by the International Education and Research Division of the Institute for the Advancement of Higher Education, Hokkaido University.</p>
8	Letter of consent for acceptance or letter of recommendation from a prospective supervising faculty member (ukeire naidaku-sho or ukeire kyouin suisen-sho)	<p>Approximately 1 x A4 page (format not specified; handwritten not accepted).</p> <p>(To be completed by a prospective supervising faculty member in charge of your preferred major field of study in one of our degree programs. You are required to ask the faculty to include the communication history between the faculty and you in the form of e.g. emails, online interviews.)</p>
9	Master's thesis abstract (or abstract of research paper and its outcomes)	<p>Master's degree holders must submit a master's thesis abstract (approximately 2 x A4 pages).</p> <p>Prospective graduates of master's degree programs must submit an abstract of research work associated with their master's thesis (approximately 2 x A4 pages).</p> <p>N.B. Submit an abstract but not the entire thesis here for "9. Master's thesis abstract". The abstract must start with the thesis title and your name.</p>
10	Research achievements (kenkyu gyoseki)	<p>Use the prescribed form (download from the "HOKKAIDO UNIVERSITY Graduate School of Health Sciences Online Application" website).</p> <p>Provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A list of published research papers incl. books you authored, conference presentations (you may add your research papers to be published or conference presentations to be made); - Photocopies of the research papers and proceedings which were published in the last five years¶; - Proof of conference presentation such as conference proceedings or program schedules listing the conference name, date, venue, presentation title and all authors' names¶; - Proof of awards (e.g. photocopies of award certificates or published articles on the awards you received) ¶; and - Proof of scholarship by a sponsoring government (MEXT or foreign government bodies)¶. <p>¶Applicable candidates only</p>

11	Admissions exam fee (kentei ryo) 30,000 yen (MEXT scholarship students and the students pursuing doctoral studies straight after the completion of their master's degree program at Hokkaido University are exempt from the fee)	<p><<How to pay>></p> <p>Follow the on-screen instructions to make a payment after completing the online application. Print out the payment-received email sent to you and submit it with your admissions application documents.</p> <p>Select one of the payment methods below.</p> <p>A. Credit card (Visa, MasterCard, JCB, American Express, etc.)</p> <p>B. Pay-easy (using a bank ATM, Japan Post Bank ATM or its online banking service), convenience store and internet banking (PayPay Bank and Rakuten Bank). Make a note of the confirmation number issued after you select a payment service (the confirmation number varies with the said services) and take it with you to your choice of payment service intermediary.</p> <p>C. Payments via the China Union Pay network "China Union Pay"</p> <p>If you are not able to pay by credit card or China Union Pay and live outside Japan, ask a person in Japan to make payment on your behalf by method A or B.</p> <p>Important:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Money orders and cash are not accepted. - Print out your customer's receipt or payment-received email and keep it as your proof of payment.
12	Other	<p>Provide both i) and ii) listed below:</p> <p>i) Proof of finance to meet your educational expenses such as a bank balance statement (the original document) or passbook showing the balance (a photocopy) of the applicant or the person who pays the applicant's educational costs.</p> <p>ii) Proof of citizenship/nationality and proof of residence status in Japan – a photocopy of passport or Japanese residence card (zairyu card)."</p>
13	Proof of educational credentials equivalent to QE (Qualifying Examination) (kiso-ryoku-shinnsa gougaku shoumei)	<p>Applicable only to the applicants who fall under 3. 6)</p> <p>Provide both:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Certificate or proof you passed an equivalent of QE; and - Document prescribing the qualifying criteria of the concerning assessment equivalent to QE.

3) Where to Submit the Application Documents

Postal address

Academic Affairs
Administration Division
Graduate School of Health Sciences
Administrative Office of Medicine and Health Sciences
Hokkaido University
Kita 12, Nishi 5, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-0812
JAPAN
Phone: 011-706-3318
E-mail: kyomu@hs.hokudai.ac.jp

Note: Please enclose all documents in a bound-in envelope (large envelope) included in the back of the application guidelines (if you have a printed edition) and hand it in at the above address or send it by post.

4) Reasonable Accommodation

Please let us know if you require reasonable accommodation for the academic admissions exam process. Email us well in advance with details of the assistance you need before the admissions window starts (see 4. 1)). It provides us with time to look into and fill your needs.

Email: kyomu@hs.hokudai.ac.jp

5) Important Reminders

- i) We do not accept incomplete applications. Check written errors and incomplete information in the required forms.
 - ii) You cannot make any changes to your application once accepted. We will not return your application documents.
 - iii) Falsified information in your application documents can lead to cancellation of admission.
 - iv) Submit a documentary proof such as an extract of the family register if any of your names have changed from those on your degree certificates (e.g. change in surnames).
 - v) When you send your application documents by post from within Japan, use the bound-in envelope to this application guidelines brochure (large envelope) and send by “kakitome sokutatsu” (insured registered express mail). Use the same envelope if you hand in your documents at our office in the Graduate School.
 - vi) If you need to apply for extended enrollment as described in “10. Extended Enrollment”, you must email us at kyomu@hs.hokudai.ac.jp to request an application form for extended enrollment and submit it with other required documents at the time of admissions application.
 - vii) There is no refund of the admissions exam fee paid under any circumstances except for the following.
 - a. You paid the admissions exam fee but did not make an application for a degree program; or your application documents were incomplete and not accepted. ||
 - b. You paid a duplicate admissions exam fee. ||
- || Ask Academic Affairs, Administrative Office, Graduate School of Health Sciences for a refund. Must allow a reasonable period for the process of refund. Keep the receipt “Kentei-ryo uketsuke shomei-sho” (examination fee payment certificate - the validated portion of the bank transfer form stamped by the post office or bank upon payment of the examination fee) or “Furikae haraikomi seikyu-sho ken juryou-sho” (same as the said certificate) which you will be asked to present to receive your refund.

5. Admissions Criteria and Methods

The selection of home student applicants and working adult applicants comprehensively considers the oral exam assessment and the review of applicants' submitted documents. Meanwhile, we conduct only the document review on the admissions of overseas students. The assessment determines which candidates receive places according to the applicants' ranking in the admission review as remarked above. The score of the last place offered under the admission criteria will be deemed as the minimum passing level.

6. Exam Schedule, Location and Type of Exam

1) Academic admissions exam

Date: Tuesday, August 19, 2025

2) Exam format, time and place

Date	Time	Type of Exam	Format	Place
Tuesday, August 19th 2025	From 10:00 am	Oral exam	Scored interview	Hokkaido University Graduate School of Health Sciences (Kita 12, Nishi 5, Kita-ku, Sapporo)

Degree program	Doctoral Degree Program in Health Sciences - Home student applicants - Working adult applicants	Doctoral Degree Program in Nursing - Home student applicants - Working adult applicants
Oral exam	Requisite	Requisite

7. Exam Results Release

10:00 am on Friday, September 19, 2025, (online results release approximately at 10:30 am)
Results will be posted on the notice board in the entrance hall of the Graduate School of Health Sciences as well as on the Graduate School website <https://www.hs.hokudai.ac.jp/e/>. Results will also be sent to applicants by mail.
No phone inquiries are accepted.

8. Student Registration Procedures

- 1) Instructions on the registration process and registration window period will be sent with your acceptance letter.
- 2) Tuition fees and other fees
 - i) Confirmation fee: 282,000 yen (subject to change)
[MEXT scholarship students and prospective graduates of Hokkaido University's master's degree programs are exempt from the fee.]
 - ii) First-semester tuition fee: 267,900 yen; per annum: 535,800 yen (both subject to change)

Note:

1. The figures provided above are subject to change. New fees will apply upon revision when starting a degree program or while studying at the university.
2. You may be entitled to a waiver or deferment of the confirmation fee and tuition fees. Instructions on how to apply will be sent with your acceptance letter.

9. Application Review for Qualification Approval

Applicants who fall into 7) or 8) in “3. Application Requirements” must go through an application review for qualification approval before applying for a doctoral degree program.

1) Application Period (starting date, closing date & time):

From Monday, June 16 to Friday, June 20, 2025

Office open from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm (Japan Standard Time)

Submit the documents listed in 9. 2) in person, or by post to the address in 9. 3) (send by “Kakitome-Sokutatsu” (insured registered express mail) via Japan Post, or its equivalent from overseas). The closing date must be strictly observed.

2) Required Documents

a) Applicants who fall into 7) in “3. Application Requirements”

i) Application form for application review for qualification approval	Use a prescribed form.
ii) Proof of highest degree earned/educational attainment	A graduation/completion certificate AND a sealed transcript
iii) Certificate of employment stating the duration of employment	Must be issued by the head of the department of the organization you work for. The certificate must specify the duration you were assigned to the research institute/lab of the organization if the organization is in the private sector.
iv) Recommendation letter	A sealed recommendation letter from the head of the department of the organization/institute you work for or a research supervisor
v) Research history	Use a prescribed form. List of research achievements (conference presentations, research papers or research institute annual reports etc.) Attach copies or photocopies of the research papers.
vi) Return envelope (to be used to release our application review decisions to the applicants)	Applying from within Japan: Provide a self-addressed stamped envelope (approx. 120mm x 235mm in size) with 410 yen postage. Applying from overseas: A return envelope is not required.

b) Applicants who fall into 8) in “3. Application Requirements”

i) Application form for application review for qualification approval	Use a prescribed form.
ii) Proof of highest degree earned/educational	A graduation/completion certificate AND a sealed transcript

attainment	
iii) Certificate of employment stating the duration of employment	Must be issued by the head of the department of the organization/institute you work for. The certificate must specify the duration of employment and job description if your employment history includes technical or professional positions.
iv) Personal statement	Use a prescribed form.
v) Research history	Use a prescribed form. List of research achievements (conference presentations, research papers etc.) Attach copies or photocopies of the research papers.
vi) Return envelope (to be used to release our application review decisions to the applicants)	Applying from within Japan: Provide a self-addressed stamped envelope (approx. 120mm x 235mm in size) with 410 yen postage. Applying from overseas: A return envelope is not required.

Note:

Document ii) is not required if you have graduated from the College of Medical Technology, Hokkaido University or the Department of Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Hokkaido University.

3) How and where to submit the application documents

i) Please mark “Documents enclosed – doctoral application review for qualification approval” in red on the envelope you use. Submit the required documents listed above in person at or by post to the address below.

ii) Postal address:

Academic Affairs
Administration Division
Graduate School of Health Sciences
Administrative Office of Medicine and Health Sciences
Hokkaido University
Kita 12, Nishi 5, Kita-ku, Sapporo 060-0812
JAPAN

4) How we review your application

Our committee reviews the number of credits and grades you have earned, research content and work experience detailed on your application. We may ask you for further documents if required to proceed with the application review.

5) Qualification approval release

The results of the committee decision will be sent out to applicants by post on Friday, July 4, 2025.

10. Extended Enrollment

Students in employment (or engaged in nursing care or childcare) may be approved for an extended duration of study to complete their degree programs in each agreed schedule beyond three years as the standard duration of study and up to a set period not exceeding six years.

Eligible students are those working in civil service positions or private sector organizations (excluding the employees on salary who are excused from duty), the self-employed, full-time working professionals, those who are engaged in childcare or nursing care for family members or those whose university study is significantly disrupted by the extra duties and obligations incidental to the said care activities.

The extended enrollment shall be reviewed and approved case-by-case basis by the Graduate School.

To apply, drop an inquiry to us at the email address in 4. 3) “Where to Submit the Application Documents” for the extended enrollment application form and relevant documents. Submit those with your admissions application documents.

Please be advised that you discuss the matter with your prospective supervising faculty member in advance. You need to prepare yourself well beforehand since you will be required to submit documentary proof for your extended enrollment.

11. Privacy Policy

1) We take all possible measures to safeguard the personal data we collect under the National University Corporation Hokkaido University Personal Information Management Rules while strictly adhering to the Act on the Protection of Personal Information Held by Incorporated Administrative Agencies.

2) The data you provided including your name and postal address will be used in the operations shown below.

- i) Admissions (admissions and selection procedures)
- ii) Exam results release
- iii) Student registration procedures
- iv) Research and investigation on admissions selection methods
- v) Auxiliaries to the above

3) We may entrust part of our operations to an external contractor (hereinafter referred to as “contractor”). All or part of your data may be shared with the contractor only to the extent necessary to perform the entrusted operations.

4) The personal data of successful applicants in their application documents will be used for the following purposes.

- i) Academic affairs operations (student records and advice in academic affairs)
- ii) Student support services (healthcare and scholarship applications)
- iii) Post-graduate career placement services
- iv) Tuition fees management

5) Among the data in the above 4), names and postal addresses may be used for communication with the Hokkaido University Frontier Foundation and the below university-related organizations.

- i) Hokkaido University Athletic Union

ii) Hokkaido University Alumni Association

iii) Alumni association for the Department of Health Sciences, School of Medicine, Hokkaido University and the College of Medical Technology, Hokkaido University

Graduate School of Health Sciences Division of Health Sciences

Doctoral Program Supervising Faculty

As of April 1, 2025

Degree Program	Major Field of Study (Education and Research Field)	Faculty Name and Email	Major Research Topics
Doctoral Degree Program in Health Sciences	Advanced Medical Sciences	Professor Tamotsu Kamishima Ktamotamo2@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Research on automatic detection of joint space narrowing using radiography 2) Research on quantitative evaluation of inflammatory joint disease activity using ultrasound and MR images 3) Research on the quantification of osteoporosis
		Professor Hiroyuki Yamaguchi hiroyuki@med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Persistent infection of intercellular pathogens and its molecular basis 2) Adaptive strategy of human pathogens for their surviving in natural environments 3) Analysis of symbiosis among microbes focused on an interaction of unculturable bacteria with amoebae
		Professor Akihiro Ishizu aishizu@med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Pathology and pathogenesis of vasculitis 2) Biophylaxis and its disorders 3) Analysis of pathogenic autoantibodies
		Professor Shu-Ping Hui keino@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Research on plasma lipoproteins and bioactive lipids 2) Research on dyslipidemia such as ectopic lipid storage disease 3) Research on oxidative stress response and regulation of mitochondrial function 4) Research and development of functional foods and elucidation of mechanism of action
		Associate Professor Sanae Kaga sanae@med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Assessment of cardiovascular diseases using ultrasonography 2) Assessment of age-related changes in cardiac shape and function 3) Study of method for standardization and accuracy control of ultrasonographic examination
		Associate Professor Hiroyuki Sugimori sugimori@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Development of deep learning-based diagnostic assistance programs 2) Development of quantitative image processing algorithms for medical images 3) Medical image analysis with computer vision and programming
		Associate Professor Toshihiro Sakurai sakura@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Plasma lipid and lipoprotein metabolism 2) Development of clinical examination and analytical methods 3) Functional food chemistry for health
		Associate Professor Shogo Tamura stamura@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Elucidation of the bone marrow hematopoietic microenvironment 2) Development of bone marrow organoids 3) Molecular pathophysiology of congenital blood coagulation disorders

Degree Program	Major Field of Study (Education and Research Field)	Faculty Name and Email	Major Research Topics
Doctoral Degree Program in Health Sciences	Advanced Medical Sciences	Associate Professor Hiroyuki Takashima hirotakashima@pop.med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Quantitative image analysis for various disorders 2) Study for metabolism of muscle and bone with aging and inflammation 3) Development of image analysis for musculoskeletal disorders
		Associate Professor Hisanori Fukunaga hisanori.fukunaga@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Tissue-sparing response in spatially fractionated radiation fields and its application for radiation therapy 2) Radiation-induced impacts on mitochondrial DNA
	Comprehensive Health Sciences	Professor Harukazu Tohyama tohyama@med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Rehabilitation for the anterior cruciate ligament injuries 2) Biomechanics for sports injuries 3) Biology and biomechanics of tendon and ligament
		Professor Hiroshi Maejima maeji@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Synaptic modification induced by exercise and motor learning. 2) Synaptic plasticity induced by neurotrophin expression. 3) Health promotion and prevention of degenerative change in the elderly.
		Professor Takako Chikenji chikenji@pop.med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Cellular senescence and healthspan 2) Mechanisms of exercise and cell therapies for chronic inflammatory diseases 3) Cellular senescence and stress resilience
		Professor Daisuke Sawamura D.sawamura@pop.med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Neurorehabilitation for patients with cognitive impairment 2) Structural and functional neuroimaging studies to elucidate the mechanism of cognition 3) Development of assessment and intervention through biomedical engineering collaboration
		Professor Mina Samukawa mina@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Mechanism and prevention of sports injuries 2) Physiological effects and performance enhancement with exercises 3) Health promotion with industry-government-academia collaboration
		Associate Professor Taisuke Miyazaki miyazaki@med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Anatomical verification of the therapeutic effect of transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS) 2) Therapeutic effect of cerebellar TMS on recovery of higher brain functions 3) Molecular mechanisms of specific connection in central nervous synapses
		Associate Professor Naoya Hasegawa n_hasegawa@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Rehabilitation for movement disorders 2) Motor learning on postural control and Effects of sensory biofeedback training 3) Mechanism and Quantitative assessment of postural control
		Professor Koichi Yokosawa yokosawa@med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Non-invasive measurements and imaging of human cognitive functions 2) Inter-brain interaction during communication 3) Evaluation of mental states by spatiotemporal-analyzing functional information of human brain

Degree Program	Major Field of Study (Education and Research Field)	Faculty Name and Email	Major Research Topics
Doctoral Degree Program in Health Sciences	Comprehensive Health Sciences	Professor Katsuhiko Ogasawara oga@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Health Service research and social health informatics 2) Health economics and health policy research 3) Health technology assessment 4) Disaster medical informatics
		Professor Taro Yamauchi taroy@med.hokudai.ac.jp	*Contribute to health and wellbeing of people, society, and planet through field research 1) Transdisciplinary Research: Participatory Action Research (PAR) with local children and stakeholders 2) Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), Menstrual Health & Hygiene (MHH) 3) Global Health, Planetary Health, Indigenous Health
		Professor Atsuko Ikeda atsuko_ikeda@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Epidemiological studies on Environmental Chemical Exposures and their effect on adverse health outcomes. 2) Birth cohort studies on environment and children's health 3) Indoor air quality and inhabitants' health
		Professor Shu-Ping Hui keino@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Research on plasma lipoproteins and bioactive lipids 2) Research on dyslipidemia such as ectopic lipid storage disease 3) Research on oxidative stress response and regulation of mitochondrial function 4) Research and development of functional foods and elucidation of mechanism of action
		Associate Professor Mika Otsuki lasteroideb612@pop.med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Clinical neuropsychological study on cognitive impairment 2) Interdisciplinary research of mechanism of language 3) Study on mechanism of cognitive impairment integrating functional images and electrophysiological study
Doctoral Degree Program in Nursing	Nursing Sciences	Professor Yasuhiko Ebina ebiyas@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Enhancing women's wellness through a holistic approach 2) Supporting mothers and children through the biopsychosocial network Psychological empowerment in women's cancer prevention strategies
		Professor Etsuko Tadaka e_tadaka@pop.med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) The generation of evidence and development of preventive approaches related to health/longevity 2) The development of new theories, techniques, indicators, and manufacturing in community care systems/programs 3) Empirical research on the prevention of social isolation and loneliness and community development 4) The setting and solving agenda related to public and community nursing in the next society
		Professor Rika Yano r-yano@med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Development of Nursing Care Outcome Model 2) Visualization of Nursing Arts by Expert Nurses 3) Study on Educational Strategies for Developing Nursing Skills

Degree Program	Major Field of Study (Education and Research Field)	Faculty Name and Email	Major Research Topics
Doctoral Degree Program in Nursing	Nursing Sciences	Professor Naomi Sumi nsumi@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Standardization and development of programs for discharge planning and community medical cooperation 2) Research of care system and care management for cancer patients and their families 3) Development and evaluation of advance practice of clinical nursing specialists and education in CNS course
		Professor Takehiro Noji drnoji@med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Research on surgical techniques and perioperative management for hepatopancreatic malignancies 2) Clinico - pathological studies to improve treatment outcomes for biliary malignancies 3) Basic and clinical research aimed at improving postoperative liver failure 4) Perioperative management of gastrointestinal and head and neck cancers
		Professor Katsuhiko Ogasawara oga@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Nursing informatics: ontology and knowledge system 2) Tele-healthcare system and social health informatics 3) Nursing economics and medical technology assessment
		Professor Taro Yamauchi taroy@med.hokudai.ac.jp	*Contribute to health and wellbeing of people, society, and planet through field research 1) Transdisciplinary Research: Participatory Action Research (PAR) with local children and stakeholders 2) Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH), Menstrual Health & Hygiene (MHH) 3) Global Health, Planetary Health, Indigenous Health
		Professor Atsuko Ikeda atsuko_ikeda@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Epidemiological studies on Environmental Chemical Exposures and their effect on adverse health outcomes. 2) Birth cohort studies on environment and children's health 3) Indoor air quality and inhabitants' health
		Associate Professor Naoko Miyajima miyajima@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Qualitative Research on Life Episodes of mental disorder before the Onset 2) Development and measurement of mental health nursing skills
		Associate Professor Mika Otsuki lasteroideb612@pop.med.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Clinical neuropsychological study on cognitive impairment 2) Interdisciplinary research of mechanism of language 3) Study on mechanism of cognitive impairment integrating functional images and electrophysiological study
		Associate Professor Mikiko Iwamoto miki@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Development of the interprofessional ethics education program in the nursing graduate school 2) Research of Leadership Roles and Management Functions in Nursing

Degree Program	Major Field of Study (Education and Research Field)	Faculty Name and Email	Major Research Topics
Doctoral Degree Program in Nursing	Nursing Sciences	Associate Professor Yoshiko Kondo kondo.yoshiko@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Sexual and Reproductive Health 2) Women's Health 3) Midwifery 4) Ethics related to Reproductive Health, Medicine and Technology 5) Mental Health of women and family involved in Artificial Reproductive Technology
		Associate Professor Miho Sato m_sato@med.hokudai.ac.jp	For people with chronic disease/chronic health problems 1) research on psychosocial experience 2) research on QOL and self-care/self-management
		Associate Professor Akemi Matsuzawa matsuzawa@hs.hokudai.ac.jp	1) Research on the health and QOL of children with special health care needs and their families, and support for those family parenting 2) Research on the health and support of families caring for families