Osaka University
Biotechnology Global Human Resource development Program

A five-year program for master’s and doctor’s degrees sponsored by the Japanese Government (MEXT)

Program Start date:
October 1 2017
Application Deadline:
December 9 2016 for scholarship slot
May 2017 for non-scholarship slot

Number to be Admitted
Ten for MEXT (Monbukagakusho) scholarship slot*
Ten for non-scholarship slot

Admission Requirements
1. Nationality: must be of the countries whose citizens are eligible for a MEXT** Scholarship (Japanese Government Scholarship).
2. Age: must be 35 or younger on April 1, 2017 (born after April 2, 1982).
3. Education: must have graduated from a university or college and completed 16 years of formal study by September 30, 2017.
4. Language ability: must have a good command of English.

*Scholarship Benefits
1. 147,000 JPY per month (subject to change)
2. Air ticket (to and from Japan)
3. Tuition fee waived

**MEXT: Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

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For Special Research in the master’s and doctor’s programs, each student will choose one laboratory among Bioenvironmental Science (Watanabe Lab.), Cell Technology (Muranaka Lab.), BioProcess Systems Engineering (Kino-oka Lab.), Bioresource Engineering (Fukusaki Lab.), Biomolecular Science and Engineering (Nagai Lab.), Biochemical Engineering (Omasa Lab), and Applied Microbiology (Fujiyama Lab.). Students can change their laboratory after completion of the master’s program, if they wish to do so.

English will be used in all lectures, instructions, and research-related activities. In the Basic Courses, students will acquire a solid background in advanced biotechnology. In the Project-based Training Course, students will acquire the ability to design and execute research in a critical manner. In the Frontier Research Proposal Course, students will acquire the ability to propose original research plans independently as a scientist. Through immersion in Special Research, students will have ample time during the remaining four years to attain their Master’s and Doctor’s Degrees in Engineering.

The Basic Courses, which will be held in the first semester of master’s program, will deal with a wide range of subjects: advanced biotechnology, and basics and applications in the fields of “Biotechnology”, “Life Science”, and “Biochemistry”.

In the first semester of the master’s program, students will take the Project-based Training Course. This course is designed to prepare students as research engineers with the ability to conceive innovative ideas, by synthesizing knowledge from different disciplines and the techniques for devising research plans towards realizing the ideas. In this course, each student will choose one laboratory different from their own, and will produce a short term research work under the supervision of professor of that lab.

All students will conduct their Special Research in the second, third, and fourth semester of the master’s program, under the supervision and instruction of his/her professor.

During the period of the doctor program, student will devote themselves to Special Research while expanding their knowledge by taking the Frontier Biotechnology Exercise and Frontier Biotechnology Seminar courses. Improving Japanese skill is required during the course. N4 level Japanese Language Proficiency Test is required for obtaining a master degree and N3 level is required for obtaining a doctoral degree.

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