



# Application Guidelines for Graduate Students

Academic Year 2026

Master's Degree Programs

Medical Science

Life Sciences and Biostatistics

Graduate program entrance examinations for the 2026 academic year will be held  
August 19, 2025 and January 13, 2026

<Day and Evening Course Graduate Program>

Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine

# Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine

## Overview of Master's Degree Programs

### 1 Admissions Policies for Master's Degree Programs

Kurume University Master's Degree Programs are designed for students who have bachelor's degrees in various fields and come from a wide range of academic backgrounds who aspire to make contributions in the fields of medicine and medical care.

These programs aim to help meet the need for human resources with highly specialized research capabilities in the fields of nursing, basic medicine, social medicine, molecular life sciences, and biostatistics, who also have a solid grounding in the liberal arts, and who care deeply about their fellow men. We thus welcome applicants who meet the following criteria.

1. Applicants who aim to become highly specialized skilled professionals in the medical field upon graduation.
  2. Applicants who intend to go on to study for a Ph.D., and become educators or researchers.
  3. Applicants who are eager to contribute to the international community.
  4. Applicants awarded a bachelor's degree in any field and who have working experience in the health care, medical, and social welfare fields.
  5. Applicants without a bachelor's degree but who possess a specialized medical or social welfare related government certification, are currently engaged in the medical or social welfare field, and have strong motivation to improve their skills while balancing work and study.
- ❖ “Admissions policies” refers to the “eligibility criteria including capability and aptitude required for prospective students”.

#### ■ Our Philosophy

The Kurume University Graduate School aims to contribute to the advancement of human culture and society by carrying out rigorous teaching and research activities that cover both theory and practice, in accordance with the provisions of the School Education Act.

*(Kurume University Graduate School Regulations, Chapter 1, Section 1, “Objectives”)*

The Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine promotes pioneering academic research in the fields of medicine and healthcare and aims to train researchers and professionals with a wide range of perspectives, specialized expertise and a rich grounding in the liberal arts, so that they may work in the international arena while helping to support medical care in their own local communities.

The Master’s Degree Programs are designed to develop human resources who can work in specialized fields that require advanced research capabilities and specialized medical knowledge, and who also have a solid general education and deep sense of humanity.

*(Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine, Graduate School Regulations, Chapter 1 “Educational Purposes and Goals”, Section 1)*

## **2 Master’s Program Coursework**

To fulfil the educational and research criteria of this graduate program, the following course of study has been set.

### **Medical Science Major**

#### **(1) Basic Medical Science Division**

This course of study is designed to train researchers to carry out cutting-edge research in the field of Basic Medical Sciences.

#### **(2) Social Medicine Division**

This course of study is designed to give researchers and educators practical training in the areas of epidemiology, medical administration, rehabilitation, health advancement, and preventative medicine.

### **Life Sciences and Biostatistics Major**

#### **(1) Life Sciences Division**

Train researchers in cutting-edge bioscience fields such as molecular genetics, cell engineering, and bio-macromolecular chemistry.

#### **(2) Biostatistics Division**

Japan’s lack of trained and qualified biostatisticians in the medical and pharmaceutical R&D sectors has become a strategic national issue in recent years. A shortage of adequate human resources in this field can reduce Japan’s international competitiveness in both the academic and industrial sectors. To help cope with this shortage, Kurume University established a Master’s Program in Biostatistics in April 2004.

Kurume University's Biostatistics research program is based on internationally accepted standards developed in the United States, and aims to produce human resources with expertise in protocol design and data analysis who will be able to support translational research based on clinical trials and genome data, who can help meet the needs of medical science, clinical research and pharmaceutical corporations, and who will also be capable of promoting the type of evidence-based medicine so urgently required by the health care, medical, and social welfare sectors.

This program aims to cultivate human resources with high ethical standards and effective communication skills who will be able to collaborate effectively with doctors, computer technicians, nurses, and other specialists.

### 3 Requirements for Graduation

(Refer to course outline and certification requirements on p. 24-28.)

#### Medical Science Major

Division	Basic Course Requirements	Major Courses	Graduate Program Seminar Series	Minor Electives	Electives
Basic Medicine Social Medicine	10 credits minimum	12 credits minimum (Including 4 credit seminar, 4 credit thesis guidance seminar)	1 credit	4 credits minimum (Lectures)	3 credits from subjects not previously studied.

#### Life Sciences / Biostatistics Majors

Division	Basic Course Requirements	Major Courses
Life Sciences	10 credits minimum	26 credits minimum (Specialized Applied Subjects (Life Sciences) 18 required credits, Specialized Applied Subjects (Life Sciences) 8 or more elective credits)
Biostatistics		30 credits minimum (Specialized Applied Subjects (Biostatistics) 12 required credits, Includes 7 lab courses, Specialized Applied Subjects (Biostatistics) 11 or more elective credits)

### **(Master's degree academic schedule)**

Students admitted to the Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine Master's Degree program will select their first year courses depending on their major, and their current knowledge and skill set. These will include courses on basic medicine as well as courses in areas new to the student. In year two students will select a dissertation topic in consultation with their academic advisor, create a research plan, collect data (beginning in year 1), and then complete their Master's dissertation.

## **4 Day and Evening Classes (Special Program) Courses and Research Methods**

### **(1) Purpose and Objectives**

Day and evening classes have been offered since 2003 to provide learning opportunities to working adults, and to enable them to acquire the advanced medical knowledge, technical skills, and research ability they need to function successfully as specialists in various fields. Under the day/evening study system classes are offered in the evenings or other specific times to give medical researchers and other healthcare professionals better access to graduate level courses and enable them to receive guidance on their research projects. [Standard of Establishment of Graduate Universities (1974 Ministry of Education Ordinance No. 28) Article 14, Education methods: Special cases.]

### **(2) Class Hours**

To better meet the needs of working adults, classes may be offered during the sixth period (18:00-19:30) and seventh period (19:40-21:10) in addition to the regular class periods 1-5. Classes may be offered on Saturday, Sunday and during summer holidays.

❖ The day/evening study system will be available to all graduate students.

## **5 Special Features of Kurume University's Graduate School Programs**

Following are some of the new features that have been introduced in the Master's Degree program in recent years.

### **(1) Clinical Research Nurse Unit**

Although many clinical trials are conducted at university hospitals, medical professionals who undertake them do not necessarily have sufficient knowledge of clinical trials. Therefore, this unit was established to cultivate clinical research nurses who have sufficient knowledge of clinical research.

### **(2) Cutting-edge/ Field Specific Research Methods Unit**

Centered around physiology lectures, students can participate not only in general experiments, but also in cross-sectional experiments in various fields and gain hands-on

experience using specialized equipment. This unit was established in April 2007 to enrich our basic educational program, and to enable students to experience and understand a wider range of experimental methods.

### (3) Establishment of the Department of Rehabilitation Biomechanics

There is a great need in Japan for healthcare professionals specializing in the field of rehabilitation, particularly due to the aging of society and the fact that the medical setting is becoming increasingly complex and specialized. Currently available human resources are often unable to cope with advances in specialized medical services. To help remedy this situation Kurume University established the Department of Rehabilitation Biomechanics in April 2007, and we have been training highly skilled specialists and educators in this field ever since.

Moreover, to promote the application of evidence-based medicine in the rehabilitation field we offer a series of specialized lectures in biostatistics, focusing on the objective, scientific analysis of human motor function, evaluation techniques, data collection, data analysis, statistics processing, thesis writing and presentation.

## **6 Conferment of Degrees**

A Master's Degree in Medical Science will be awarded to students who have been enrolled in this graduate program for at least two years, have obtained the required credits, whose thesis has been submitted and approved, and who have passed the final examinations. The minimum enrollment period may be shortened to 1 year for students who produce exceptional research results and who have completed the other prescribed requirements.

## **7 Enterprises and Projects within Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine that relate to the Master's Degree Program**

### **● Training Plan for Cancer Professionals (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)**

Cancer is the number one cause of death in Japan. One of every two people is likely to be diagnosed with cancer during their lifetime, so there is a great need for new cancer therapies to improve the lives and health of our citizens. Furthermore, the Ministry of Health's "Future Directions of Cancer Treatment" and "Acceleration Plan for Cancer Control" have stimulated research on gene therapy, pediatric and rare cancer management, cancer treatment for different life stages such as AYA (Adolescent and Young Adult) and geriatric care, and is promoting education on palliative care.

As part of the government's "Training Plan for Cancer Professionals", "Training Centers for

Cancer Professionals” have been established at a number of universities, including the Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine. These have created an inter-university cooperative network where the strengths of each university are combined to create a unique curriculum aimed at developing “Cancer Treatment Specialists (Cancer Professionals)” who are able to meet the demand for new cancer therapies and significantly improve the level of cancer treatment in Japan.

Our graduate program has been coordinating with other medical universities in the Kyushu region for over 10 years. We have established a sustainable collaborative educational system that has helped educate specialized cancer health professionals capable of meeting a diverse range of needs. The “Training Plan for Cancer Professionals” was jointly adopted in 2017, and we introduced the following courses in academic 2018 to further contribute to the development of cancer health professionals.

Our curriculum is among the first to incorporate a home nursing practicum within the special nursing major that involves coordination between local healthcare professionals from various fields. Our experience with this program has shown that there is an urgent need for human resources with the ability to coordinate community resources to promote home healthcare services, to optimize the cooperation between healthcare professionals from various fields, and who also have the skills to carry out educational activities among local residents.

In addition to an advanced practical nursing curriculum approved by the Japan Nursing Association, in 2018 we introduced a program to promote locally-based education programs to improve palliative care for cancer patients. This program takes advantage of our strength as a comprehensive university to offer, in collaboration with educational specialists, small-group learning, along with leadership training lectures and practicums. Students who complete this course as credited auditors will learn to solve organizational problems, and give them the skills they will need to function effectively as community coordinators.

**Admission Procedures for Academic Year 2026**  
**Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine**  
**Master's Degree Program**

**1. Number to be admitted**

Medical Science Major: 8 persons

Life Sciences / Biostatistics Major: 8 persons

[Includes working professionals and international students admitted through Special Selection Exams]

**2. Eligibility**

Applicants must meet at least one of the following criteria.

**[B] Special Selection Exam for Working Professionals**

Working Professionals, defined as a person who has worked at a corporation or an educational institution for two years at the time of enrollment, and who intends to continue to work after April 2026.

1. Applicants who have graduated or expect to graduate from a university (as defined by the School Education Act, Article 83) by March 2026.
2. Applicants who have been awarded or expect to be awarded a Bachelor's degree (as defined by the School Education Act, Article 104 section 7) by March 2026.
3. Applicants who have completed 16 years of education at an overseas educational institution.
4. Applicants who will have completed a special program at a vocational school (must be a 4-year program and meet the standards set by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) on or after the date set by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.
5. Applicants designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (1953 Ministry of Education Ordinance No.5)
6. Applicants over 22 years of age who have shown in a separate prescreening that they have academic abilities equivalent or superior to the holder of a Bachelor's degree.

**[C] International Applicants**

1. Applicants who have completed or will complete 16 years of education at an overseas educational institution by March 2026.



2. International applicants who have graduated or expected to graduate from a Japanese university (as defined by the School Education Act, Article 83) by March 2026.
3. International applicants who have shown in a separate prescreening that they have academic abilities equivalent or superior to the holder of a Bachelor's degree, and who are over 22 years old.

[Notes]

1. For applicants applying under section [B] - 6, [C] - 3, please refer to the Application Guidelines.
2. Applicants applying under section [B] - 6, [C] - 3 must meet the following requirements.
  - a. Must have graduated from a medical or nursing junior college, vocational school, or other specialized school, and must be over 22 years of age as of March 31, 2025. All the below must also apply.
    - i. Must have a national qualification in the medical, nursing, or social-welfare field.
    - ii. Must have 4 years or more work experience based on the above qualification.
    - iii. Must have published a research paper, or have presented at a conference or research workshop.

Note: Following is a list of medical, nursing, and social-welfare related national qualifications.

A) Licensed doctor (includes dentists and veterinarians), shiatsu masseuse, acupuncturist, moxibustion therapist, judo therapist, or any other medical license holder who is allowed to have their own practice.

B) Nurse, midwife, public health nurse, radiological technologist, clinical technologist, pharmacist, nutritionist, dietitian, clinical engineer, dental hygienist, dental technician, physical therapist, prosthetist, speech therapist, occupational therapist, orthoptist, medical technologist, or any other licensed healthcare professional.

C) Psychiatric social worker, social worker, care worker, or any other social care related licensed professional.

- b. Must have graduated from a junior college, vocational school, or other specialized school, and be over 22 years of age as of March 31, 2026. All the below must also apply.
  - i. Must have work experience conducting medical research or have over 4 years of direct experience in a medical, nursing, or social-welfare related field. (Must

submit a certificate from the respective institution describing their work experience).

- ii. Must have published a research paper, or have presented at a conference or research workshop.

### 3. Prescreening Process

Applicants applying under section [B] - 6, [C] - 3 must submit the following to determine their eligibility. Please make sure to contact the prospective supervisor(s) well in advance and discuss the relevant academic and research guidelines prior to submitting the prescreening application.

#### (1) Prescreening Documents (Documents 1~4 must be submitted by all applicants)

1	Application form	Form 9
2	List of Achievements	Form 8
3	Graduation Certificate	Original copy. Not required for Kurume University graduates.
4	Academic Transcripts	Original copy. Not required for Kurume University graduates.
5	Copy of Medical and Nursing licenses	For applicants applying under [B] - 6, [C]- 3 only
6	Term of Employment Certificate (Documentation proving 4 years or more of professional experience)	For applicants applying under [B] - 6, [C]- 3 only

#### (2) Submission Deadlines for Prescreening Applications

Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine holds entrance examinations twice a year. The submission periods for each examination are listed below.

Enrollment Term	Submission Period for “Prescreening Application”
First term	Must be received between June 9, 2025 (Monday) ~ June 13, 2025 (Friday).
Second term	Must be received between November 10, 2025 (Monday) ~ November 14, 2025 (Friday).

Note: Prescreening applications received outside of these dates will not be accepted.

- ❖ Once a prescreening application has been accepted, a formal application notice will be issued. This formal application is valid up to the following school year.
- ❖ Use only registered mail when applying via the postal service. Make sure to write “Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine, Graduate Program Application

Enclosed” on the front of the package in red lettering

❖ Reception hours are 9:00~17:00 (except 12:00~13:00) excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

❖ Submitted applications will not be returned.

(3) Submission Address: please refer to p.12.

(4) Results of Prescreening Application

Applicants will be notified by mail of the results of the prescreening application prior to the formal application deadline.

❖ Successful applicants will be able to sit the entrance examination for the Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine Master’s Degree program.

#### 4. Formal Application Process

Applicants must consult with their prospective advisor(s) about curriculum and research prospects prior to submitting the formal application documents.

\* Documents already submitted during the prescreening process may be omitted.

1. Application Form	Form 1
2. Personal Statement	Form 2 (Maximum of 500 Japanese characters or 250 English words)
3. Academic Transcripts *	Original transcripts issued by the university, junior college, or vocational schools you have attended. (Not required if you graduated or expect to graduate from Kurume University)
4. Two Identical Photographs	Submit identical photographs taken within three months, showing a front view above chest level. No cap or hat is allowed. The photograph must be 5 cm high by 4 cm wide. Please affix one directly to the Application Form (Form 1) and another to the Applicant’s Examination Admission Card (Form 3).
5. Graduation Certificate(s) *	One original copy issued from the university, junior college, or vocational schools you have attended. (Not required if you graduated or expect to graduate from Kurume University) For applicants who have completed (or expect to complete) 16 years of education at an overseas educational institution, documentary proof is required. Such applicants must also <u>submit a letter of recommendation from their university president or academic advisor.</u>
6. Applicant’s Examination Admission Card	Form 3

7. Application Fee	¥30,000 (Form 4) Fill out the designated bank transfer form and pay the application fee at any convenient financial institution (banks, credit unions, credit associations, agricultural cooperative). (Money transfers from Japan Post Bank, convenience stores, and internet banking are not available) The application fee will not be refunded under any circumstances.
8. Employer's Consent Form	Required from working professional applicants only. Form 5 must be filled out and completed by the applicant's supervisor at his or her current place of employment.
9. Registration Extension Program	Form 6 Required from working professional applicants who would like to take advantage of the Registration Extension Program.
10. Certificate of Employment	Required from working professional applicants who wish to take part in the Registration Extension Program. This differs from the Term of Employment Certificate.
11. Formal Application Notice	For applicants who received a formal application notice, submit a copy of the document.
12. English Proficiency Exemption Application	Submit relevant Certifications. Refer to p.13-14. (Does not apply to Biostatistics majors)
13. Copy of Degree	Required from those who have received a Degree from the National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education. For those who are expecting to receive such a degree, submit the application acceptance notification.
14. Copy of passport and Resident Card	International Student applicants must submit a copy of their passport and Resident Card. International students who reside outside of Japan and do not have a Resident Card need only submit a copy of their passport.
15. International Student Questionnaire (Only for International Student Special Examination applicants)	This is an original form from the Graduate School. Contact the Administrative office before prescreening to obtain the form. ❖ Attach a Japanese translation of all foreign certificates and documents. ❖ Obtain an official certificate or registration record if your name has changed due to changes in marital status or family circumstances. ❖ Attach documentation proving your ability to cover your expenses.

## 5. Application Submission

### (1) Submission Period

First term	Must be submitted between July 14, 2025 (Tuesday) – July 18, 2025 (Friday).
Second term	Must be submitted between December 15, 2025 (Monday) – December 19, 2025 (Friday).

Note: Applications received outside of these dates will not be accepted.

- ❖ Use only registered mail when applying via postal service. Make sure to write “Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine, Graduate Program Application Enclosed” on the front of the package in red lettering.
- ❖ Reception hours are 9:00~17:00 (closed 12:00~13:00) except Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

### (2) Where to submit applications, and contact information

Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine, Graduate, Admissions office, Medical School Academic Affairs Section 67 Asahi-machi, Kurume, Fukuoka 830-0011 Japan  Tel: +81-0942-31-7528 (direct) E-mail: <a href="mailto:igaku-kyomu@kurume-u.ac.jp">igaku-kyomu@kurume-u.ac.jp</a> Homepage: <a href="https://www.kurume-u.ac.jp/faculty/gmed/examination/">https://www.kurume-u.ac.jp/faculty/gmed/examination/</a>
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Important Notice regarding Application Submission.

- ❖ Submitted applications will not be returned.
- ❖ No changes can be made to submitted applications. If any false or incorrect information is found in the submitted documents, application eligibility will be revoked, and the admission of any already enrolled student shall be cancelled.

## 6. Selection Methods

(1) Applicants will be selected based on the results of the entrance examination described in (3) below, and a review of submitted documents.

(2) Examination Date

First term	August 19, 2025(Tuesday)
Second term	January 13, 2026 (Tuesday)

\* Those who fail the first term examination may apply to take the second term examination.

(3) Examination Subjects and Venue

[Medical Science, Life Sciences and Biostatistics majors (Life Sciences Division)]

Examination Subjects	Schedule	Venue
English	9:30~10:30	Room 1501, 5th floor, Academic Building 1, Kurume University School of Medicine
Essay	11:00~12:00	
Interview	13:00~	Details will be announced at above venue

- 1) Applicants are required to be present at the venue by 9:10 am on the examination date.
- 2) The English language test will be a written examination. (Printed dictionaries allowed, but no electronic dictionaries are permitted in the examination hall.)

[Life Sciences and Biostatistics majors (Biostatistics Division)]

Examination Subjects	Schedule	Venue
English	10:30~12:00	Conference Room 1, 2nd floor, Academic Building 1, Kurume University School of Medicine
Interview	13:00~	Details will be announced at above venue

- 1) Applicants are required to be present at the venue by 10:10 am on the examination date.
- 2) English will be tested using High school level Math I · II problems given in English. (Printed dictionaries allowed, but no electronic dictionaries are permitted in the examination hall.)

### [Exemption from the English Examination]

Note: Not applicable for Life Sciences and Biostatistics majors from the Biostatistics Division.

Applicants will be exempt from the English Examination if one of the following conditions are met. A copy of the relevant English Proficiency results must be submitted along with the test application.

- 1) TOEIC (Listening & Reading Test) score of over 650

- 2) TOEFL score of over 65 points
- 3) Practical English Proficiency Test, Level 2 or above
- ❖ The official test scores are valid within 4 years of the entrance examination, with the exception of the Practical English Proficiency Test.
- ❖ For those who are exempt from taking the English subject examinations, the minimum passing mark for the English subjects will be counted as their grade. Those who have requested an exemption from the English subject examinations have the option to take the examination, in which case the higher score will be used as their grade.

## 7. Announcement of Results

Results will be posted at the entrance to Kurume University Academic Building 1 and on the School of Medicine website on the date and time shown below. Results will also be sent by mail to the address provided on the application form.

Enrollment Term	Announcement Schedule
First term	September 12, 2025 (Friday) at 10:00 am
Second term	February 13, 2026 (Friday) at 10:00 am

## 8. Enrollment Procedure (Admissions fee and enrollment application deadlines)

First term	September 26, 2025 (Friday)	Please submit all necessary documents and complete payment by the deadline. If not, enrollment will be canceled.
Second term	February 20, 2026 (Friday)	

## 9. Admission Fees and Tuition

### Medical Science, Life Sciences and Biostatistics majors

Admission Fee		JPY 240,000	(JPY 120,000 for Kurume University graduates)
Tuition (First Semester)	First Semester	JPY 240,000	(Annual JPY 480,000)
Laboratory Fee	First Semester	JPY 60,000	(Annual JPY 120,000)
Educational Development Fee	First Semester	JPY 30,000	(Annual JPY 60,000)

- ❖ Applicants using the Registration Extension Program, please refer to p. 16.
- ❖ If an accepted applicant must for some reason decline enrollment after going through the admission procedures, all fees except for the admissions fee will be refunded if a letter notifying the school of the declined enrolment is received by the

Admissions Office no later than 17:00 on February 20, 2026. Otherwise no refunds will be made.

#### **10. Kurume University Graduate School of Medicine Master's Degree Scholarship Program**

Kurume University has a school loan program awarding JPY 85,000 per month.

#### **11. International Student Fee Reduction System**

Tuition reduction for selected international students is available. This program covers either 50% or 100% of your enrollment fees and tuition.

#### **12. Notes**

(1) Examination admission cards will be issued on the day of the examination at the venue. Once you have obtained a receipt for your entrance examination fee the application process is completed.

(2) Requests for change of major will not be accepted once the application is submitted. An exception is made for Life Sciences and Biostatistics majors in the Biostatistics Division, who will be assigned a "tentative supervisor" their first year, and a permanent academic supervisor in the second year of their Master's program.

(3) For those who have applied with "expected" documentation, please submit such certifications, and medical, nursing, and social-welfare related licenses as soon as possible.

(4) Past Graduate Department entrance examination questions will be posted in the Academic Building 1, 2nd floor hall in front of the medical department administration office from 9:00~16:00 weekdays (excluding national and university holidays). Copies are not allowed.

#### **Personal Information Policy**

Kurume University will manage the personal information of applicants in compliance with relevant laws and regulations concerning the protection of personal information during the admission process. The University strives to ensure proper handling of personal information and takes necessary measures for safe management.

Personal information provided during the application and admission procedure is used as required for the entrance examination, acceptance announcement, enrollment procedures, student and faculty relations, and support for student life upon employment.

Personal information acquired by the University will not be disclosed or provided to a third party without consent.



## **[Extended Study Program]**

The Extended Study Program allows students who are also working professionals to extend their graduate program to three years. Please contact the academic office for more information.

### **Program Outline**

#### **(1) Applicable Candidates**

This program is available for an applicant who has been admitted into the graduate program through the Working Professional Special Admission process. The candidate will not be eligible for such an extension if for any reason they cease to be employed after April 2026.

#### **(2) Eligibility**

The following qualifications must be met

- i. Must be a full time employee at a corporation or a public organization, or be self employed.
- ii. Any other person deemed fit for the Extended Study Program.

#### **(3) Acceptance**

Application should be submitted after discussions with your professor. Applications will be reviewed and results will be mailed to the applicant's mailing address. Enrollment in the graduate program will not be affected even if applicant not accepted in the Extended Study Program.

#### **(4) Graduation Requirements and Credit Acquisition**

The graduation and credit acquisition requirements for participants in the Extended Study Program are the same as for regular students.

#### **(5) Attendance Period and Enrollment Period**

- a. Attendance period is to be 3 years
- b. Enrollment period may be extended for a maximum of 5 years. A maximum of 2 years of leave from school is allowed during the extension period.

#### **(6) Application Requirements**

- a. Applicants in the Extended Study Program will not be eligible for early graduation.
- b. Extension program application and school ID must be submitted at the time of registration.
- c. No changes will be accepted once the application is submitted.

(7) School Fees

- a. The standard two-year tuition will be divided by three and that sum will be paid as an annual tuition for three years. From the fourth year of enrollment, tuition will be the same as the standard annual tuition fees. Laboratory and educational development fees will be charged according to school regulations.

**Admission Fee (Example)**

Medicine Majors /Life Sciences and Biostatistics Majors

	First Year		Second Year		Third Year		Total
	Admission Fee	Second Semester	First Semester	Second Semester	First Semester	Second Semester	
Admission Fees (Kurume University graduate)	240,000  (120,000)						240,000  (120,000)
Tuition	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	160,000	960,000
Laboratory Fees	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	240,000
Educational Development Fee	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	120,000
Total (Kurume University graduate)	680,000  (560,000)		440,000  (440,000)		440,000  (440,000)		1,560,000  (1,440,000)

## Course Content and Professors

### Medical Science Majors

Division	Major	Research Fields	Teaching Professor
Basic Medical Science	Human Anatomy and Cell Biology	Gross anatomical research Clinical anatomical research (development of low invasive surgery, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Structure of the vascular system</li> <li>• Functional anatomy of the musculo-skeletal system (lower extremity, etc.)</li> <li>• Anatomy of the thoracic and abdominal organs</li> <li>• Anatomy of the head and neck region</li> </ul> Analysis of the vascular distribution of transplanted tissue (skin flap, etc.)	Department of Anatomy (Division of Gross and Clinical Anatomy) Koichi Watanabe
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research of transcriptional regulation by high-throughput sequencing</li> <li>• Identification and characterization of novel cell populations by single-cell analyses</li> <li>• Research of transcriptional regulation by generating genome editing mice</li> </ul>	Department of Anatomy (Division of Microscopic and Developmental Anatomy) Yuichi Shima
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of advanced imaging methods for biomedical research and the application</li> <li>• 3D-cellular network in dermis and others using 3D electron microscopy including FIB-SEM tomography</li> <li>• Mitochondrial dynamics and inter-organelle interaction by 3D correlative light electron microscopy (CLEM)</li> <li>• Visualization of exosome secretion</li> </ul>	Advance Imaging Research Center Keisuke Ohta
	Clinical Neurophysiology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Neuroscience</li> <li>• Clinical Neurophysiology</li> <li>• Optogenetics</li> </ul>	Physiology Fumiaki Yoshida
	Molecular Physiology & Neuro science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electrophysiology and molecular biology of ion channels</li> <li>• Intracellular signaling</li> <li>• Generation and modulation mechanisms of action potentials</li> <li>• Physiological roles of HCN channels and cAMP in the central nervous system</li> </ul>	Department of Physiology Noriyuki Nakashima

Division	Major	Research Fields	Teaching Professor
Basic Medical Science	Biochemistry of Metabolic Disorders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Metabolic diseases such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes and gout; cancer, genome analysis and molecular pathology analysis in autoimmune disease, epigenome biomarker identification for the above diseases, and their significance as regards development of chronic disease.</li> <li>Familial analysis of single gene disorders and the identification of disease genes.</li> </ul>	Department of Medical Biochemistry Ken Yamamoto
	Clinical Pharmacology	Neuro and Clinical Pharmacology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dopaminergic signaling mediated through protein phosphorylation</li> <li>Degeneration and regeneration of dopaminergic neurons</li> <li>Regulatory mechanisms of neurotransmitter release evaluated with in vivo microdialysis</li> <li>Neurochemical and behavioral aspects of drug addiction</li> </ul>	Department of Pharmacology ○Akinori Nishi
	Pathophysiology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Surgical pathology, tumor histogenesis</li> </ul>	Department of Diagnostic Pathology Jun Akiba
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Molecular clinicopathological study of hematological disorders focusing on lymphoma</li> <li>Spatial analysis of molecular expression and mutations in the tumor microenvironment</li> <li>Biomarker discovery using pathology image AI</li> </ul>	Department of Pathology Prof. Hiroaki Miyoshi
Basic Medical Science	Pathology of Infectious Diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bacteriology</li> <li>Microbial Genomics</li> <li>Evolution of Pathogenesis</li> <li>Host defense mechanisms against bacterial infections</li> <li>New therapeutic agents for bacterial infections</li> </ul>	Department of Infectious Medicine Yoshitoshi Ogura

Division	Major	Research Fields	Teaching Professor
Basic Medical Science	Pathology of Infectious Diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infectious disease</li> <li>• Nosocomial Infection Control</li> <li>• Tropical Medicine</li> <li>• Travel Medicine</li> </ul>	Department of Infection Control and Prevention ○Hiroshi Watanabe
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Virology</li> <li>• Biochemistry (Analysis of viral RNA polymerase)</li> <li>• Molecular Biology (Analysis of viral genome and protein)</li> </ul>	Center for the study of medical education TAKAHITO Kashiwagi
		<p>Trypanosoma brucei is a protozoa that can cause African sleeping sickness. It belongs to the kinetoplast family, the oldest and most distant eucaryote from mammal species on the ribosome DNA phylogenetic tree. We use this organism to study differences in the signal transduction system of the phosphorylation-dependent molecular chaperone 14-3-3, which also exists in mammals, and to look for new functions of molecular 14-3-3 in humans. We also conduct screening for medications targeting molecules affected by the molecular 14-3-3 signal.</p>	Department of Infectious Medicine (Division of Eukaryotic Microbiology) Masahiro Inoue
	Host Defense	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General immunology, particularly gut immunity, and cell-based immunotherapy utilizing suppressor cells.</li> </ul>	Department of Immunology Atsushi Mizoguchi
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actively investigating the functional modulation of CEC (colonic epithelial cells), as a first line of defense in the body, to complete our understanding in the pathogenesis of IBD by utilizing animal models as well as clinical samples</li> </ul>	Department of Immunology Emiko Mizoguchi
	Chemical Biology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Screening of aptamers and their biomedical applications</li> <li>• Regulation of function by post-translational modification of proteins</li> <li>• Target identification and mechanism of action in chemical biology and drug discovery</li> </ul>	Department of Chemistry Yuichiro Higashimoto

Division	Major	Research Fields	Teaching Professor
Social Medicine	Epidemiology and Preventative Medicine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health Policy</li> <li>• Health Economics</li> <li>• Epidemiology</li> <li>• Real world data analysis in medicine</li> </ul>	Department of Public Health Shinichi Tanihara
	Environmental Medicine	Occupational Medicine 1) Effects of hyperbaric environment on health. 2) Prevention and management of vibration disorders. 3) Health management for Health care and welfare workers. Environmental Medicine 1) Health effects of electromagnetic waves. 2) Indoor air pollution and sick house syndrome. Community Health 1) Research on HIA (Health Impact Assessment) applications.	Department of Environmental Medicine ○Tatsuya Ishitake
	Human Genetics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forensic medical research on blood groups and serum protein.</li> <li>• Genetics research on human blood group fucosyltransferase genes</li> </ul>	Department of Forensic Medicine ○Yoshiro Koda
	Health Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical research on exercise (physical activity) and the effect of lifestyle changes on disease prevention. Research on the effects of physical activity and nutritional intake on lifestyle diseases and their pathology, along with its effect on arteriosclerosis risk factors.</li> </ul>	Department of Chemistry Noriko Yoshida

※Healthcare and Medical Education(Scheduled to start in April 2026)

Division	Major	Research Fields	Teaching Professor
Social Medicine	Rehabilitation Biomechanics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exercise therapy for health promotion</li> <li>• Exercise therapy for the chronic pain</li> <li>• Electrical stimulation therapy</li> <li>• Biomechanics of the physical function</li> <li>• Study of the musculoskeletal atrophy during inactivity</li> <li>• Study of the muscles and bones linkage</li> <li>• Study of management of the muscle skeletal function in aerospace</li> </ul>	Hiroo Matsuse , M.D., Ph.D. Division of Rehabilitation, Kurume University Hospital

## Life Sciences and Biostatistics Majors

Division	Major	Research Fields	Teaching Professor
Life Sciences	Genetic Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research to understand adaptation to starvation by analyzing the mechanisms that regulate feeding and body temperature.</li> <li>• Research to understand how food preferences are regulated by molecular neuroendocrinological analysis.</li> <li>• Research to discover new bioactive peptides and analyze their functions.</li> </ul>	Institute of Life Science (Division of Molecular Genetics) Takahiro Sato
	Cell Biology	Molecular biology of cell proliferation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cell proliferation control in response to alterations in the nutritional conditions</li> <li>• Molecular mechanisms ensuring accurate chromosome segregation in mitosis</li> </ul>	Institute of Life Science (Department of Cell Biology) Shigeaki Saitoh
	Research Management	In this course, you can learn and acquire skills needed for an independent principal investigator (PI) or Research Administrator (URA) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific writing</li> <li>• How to apply for research grants and academic positions</li> <li>• Methods of Scientific presentation</li> <li>• Intellectual Property Management</li> <li>• Management of collaborations between industry and academic</li> <li>• Research ethics</li> </ul>	Institute of Life Science (Division of Molecular Genetics) Takahiro Sato
Biostatistics	Biostatistics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survival data analysis</li> <li>• Environmental epidemiology statistics modeling and risk analysis</li> <li>• Bayesian statistics</li> </ul>	Biostatistics Center Kyoji Furukawa
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Analysis of vital and lifestyle data using machine learning</li> <li>• Development of image reconstruction method of bio-functional imaging by statistical approach</li> <li>• Statistical analysis of redox imbalance in diseases</li> </ul>	Biostatistics Center Keiji Yasukawa
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clinical Trial Design</li> <li>• Diagnostic Medicine</li> <li>• Statistical Consulting</li> </ul>	Biostatistics Center Kenta Murotani



**Medical Science Major (Basic Medical Science and Social Medicine Division)**

Division	Subject	Credit	Year eligible	Division	Subject	Credit	Year eligible		
		L/S				L/S			
Basic Subjects	Human Anatomy	2	1, 2	Major Subjects	Basic Medicine	Human Anatomy and Cell Biology	4	1,2	
	Human Physiology	2	1, 2			Clinical Neurophysiology	4	1,2	
	Introduction to Clinical Medicine	2	1, 2			Biochemistry of Metabolic Disorders	4	1,2	
	Introduction to Social Medicine	1	1, 2			Clinical Pharmacology	4	1,2	
	Advanced Physics	1	1, 2			Pathophysiology	4	1,2	
	Advanced Biology	1	1, 2			Pathology of Infectious Diseases	4	1,2	
	Advanced Chemistry	1	1, 2			Bioregulation	4	1,2	
	Medical Education	4	1, 2			*Fundamental Medicine Seminar	4	1	
	Bioethics I	1	1,2			Social Medicine	Environmental Medicine	4	1,2
	Clinical Genetics	1	1,2				Epidemiology and Preventative Medicine	4	1,2
	Transplant Medicine	1	1, 2		Human Genetics		4	1,2	
	Rehabilitation Medicine	1	1, 2		Health Science		4	1,2	
	Introduction to Medical Engineering	1	1, 2		Rehabilitation Biomechanics		4	1,2	
	Laboratory Animal Science	1	1, 2		* Social Medicine Seminar		4	1	
	Nursing Ethics	2	1, 2		Choose one of two majors 8 credits minimum (includes 4 seminar credits)				
	Nursing Research	2	1, 2						
	Nursing Policy	2	1, 2						
	Nursing Theory	2	1, 2						
	Nursing Consultation	2	1, 2						

Division	Subject	Credit	Year eligible	Division	Subject	Credit	Year eligible	
		L/S				L/S		
Basic Subjects	Advanced and Specialized Research Techniques (Lab)	2	1, 2	Minor Subjects	Minimum of 4 credits from non-major subjects (Lecture)			
	Intoroductory Biostatistics	1	1, 2					
	Applied Biostatistics	2	1, 2					
	Introduction to Intellectual Property The Basis and Practice	2	1, 2					
	Introduction to Clinical Research	2	1, 2					
	Seminar Series	Clinical Pharmacology for Nursing Practice	2	1, 2	Common Credits	Thesis guidance seminar	4	1-2
		Physical Assessment	2	1, 2				
		Pathophysiology for Nursing Practice	2	1, 2				
		Healthcare Management	2	1, 2				
		Healthcare Economics	2	1, 2				
Nursing Management		2	1, 2					
Minimum 10 Credits Required								
Graduate School Seminar Series		1	1, 2					
Special Lecture (1 credit minimum)								
Electives: 3 credits from subjects not yet studied.								
Total: 30 credit minimum (for those whose Master's thesis has been accepted) Subjects marked with an asterisk (*) are required subjects for the particular program.								

**Life Sciences and Biostatistics Majors (Life Sciences and Biostatistics Division)**

Division	Subject	Credit	Year eligible	Division	Subject	Credit	Year eligible	
		L/S				L/S		
Basic Subjects	Human Anatomy	2	1, 2	Advanced Application	Life Sciences and Biostatistics	Research Ethics	2	1
	Human Physiology	2	1, 2			Molecular Cell Biology	2	1
	Introduction to Clinical Medicine	2	1, 2			Biology of Gene	2	1
	Introduction to Social Medicine	1	1, 2			Omics Analysis	1	1
	Advanced Physics	1	1, 2			Bioinformatics	1	2
	Advanced Biology	1	1, 2		Life Sciences	Research Management	2	1
	Advanced Chemistry	1	1, 2			Science Communication	2	1
	Medical Education	4	1, 2			Scientific Writing for Research Paper	2	1
	Bioethics I	1	1, 2			Bioventure Studies	2	1
	Clinical Genetics	1	1, 2			Life Science of Diseases	2	1
	Transplant Medicine	1	1,2			Molecular Biology of Intracellular Organelle	2	1
	Rehabilitation Medicine	1	1,2			Cell Signaling	2	1
	Introduction to Medical Engineering	1	1, 2			Molecular Biology of Organ Interaction	2	1
	Laboratory Animal Science	1	1, 2			Science of Eating, Stress, and Aging	2	1
	Nursing Ethics	2	1, 2			Science of Energy Metabolism	2	1
	Nursing Research	2	1, 2			Experimental Methods of Bioscience	2	1
	Nursing Policy	2	1, 2			Experimental Methods of Bioscience (Training)	2	2
	Nursing Theory	2	1, 2			Science of Experimental Animals	2	1
	Nursing Consultation	2	1, 2			Science of Experimental Animals (Training)	2	2
	Advanced and Specialized Research Techniques (Lab)	2	1, 2			Science of Model Organisms I: Yeast	2	1
			Science of Model Organisms I: Yeast (Training)	2	2			
			Science of Model Organisms II: Fly, Nematode	2	1			
			Science of Model Organisms II: Fly, Nematode (Training)	2	2			

Division	Subject	Credit	Year eligible	Division	Subject	Credit	Year eligible	
		L/S				L/S		
Basic Subjects	Intoroductory Biostatistics	1	1, 2	Advanced Application	Life Sciences	Data base Analysis of Bioscience: Analysis of Mega-Data	2	2
	Applied Biostatistics	2	1, 2			Data base Analysis of Bioscience: Analysis of Mega-Data (Training)	2	2
	Introduction to Intellectual Property The Basis and Practice	2	1, 2			Making of Protocol and Research Design of Bioscience	2	2
	Introduction to Clinical Research	2	1, 2			Making of Protocol and Research Design of Bioscience (Training)	2	2
	Clinical Pharmacology for Nursing Practice	2	1, 2			Internship of Bioventure	2	2
	Physical Assessment	2	1, 2					
	Pathophysiology for Nursing Practice	2	1, 2		Biostatistics	Biostatistical Methodology in Clinical Trials	2	1
	Healthcare Management	2	1, 2			Medical Data Analysis	2	1
	Healthcare Economics	2	1, 2			Introduction to Bio-Data Analysis	2	1
	Nursing Management	2	1, 2			Introduction to Statistical Epidemiology	2	1
	Minimum 10 credits required					Introduction to Genome Science	2	1

Division	Subject	Credit	Year eligible	Division	Subject	Credit	Year eligible	
		L/S				L/S		
Advanced Application Subject	Biostatistics	Biostatistical Methodology in Clinical Trials	2	Advanced Application Subject	Biostatistics	Environmental Statistics	1	1
		Medical Data Analysis	2			Bio-Data Modeling	2	1
		Introduction to Bio-data Analysis	2			Machine Learning	2	1
		Introduction to Bio-data Analysis	2			Research Protocol Design	1	2
		Introduction to Genome Science	2			Observational Data Analysis II	1	1
		Introduction to Pharmacokinetic/ Pharmacodynamic	1			Biostatistical Methods in Clinical Trials	1	1
		Basic Biostatistics	4			Biostatistics Seminar I	3	1, 2
		Theoretical Biostatistics	4			Bioinformatics Seminar I	3	1, 2
		Survival Analysis	2			Biostatistics Seminar II	4	1, 2
		Observational Data Analysis I	1			Bioinformatics Seminar II	4	1, 2
<p>Life Sciences Major: Students must complete a minimum of 36 credits (10 elective credits from Basic Subjects, 18 required credits from Specialized Applied Subjects (Life Sciences), and 8 elective credits from Specialized Applied Subjects (Life Sciences). (Applies to students whose Master's thesis has been accepted).</p> <p>Biostatistics Major: Students must complete a minimum of 30 credits from Specialized Applied Subjects (Biostatistics). (Applies to students whose Master's thesis has been accepted).</p>								

Note 1: L stands for lecture and S stands for seminar.

Note 2: Students must complete either Biostatistics seminar I or Bioinformatics Seminar I.

Note 3: Students must complete either Biostatistics seminar II or Bioinformatics Seminar II.

Note 4: All classes except those indicated in Notes 2 and 3 are compulsory electives.

Note 5: All students are free to enroll in basic classes.