

## **FAQ**

### **1. About the ENPHAS program**

Q1 How many MEXT scholarship students will you recruit with this program?

A1

We will select four new students each for 2021 and 2022.

Q2 What are the steps of the recruitment process?

A2

You contact a potential supervisor in December and submit the required application documents to the Graduate School along with a recommendation from your supervisor in January. NCU examines these documents, and MEXT will inform you of the final results in June 2021. Since discussing the matter with a potential supervisor takes time, we recommend first contacting him/her in early December.

Q3 How many years does it take to complete the program?

A3

This program consists of two courses. One is a four-year doctoral course in Medical Sciences, and the other combines a two-year master's course and a three-year doctoral course in either the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences or the Graduate School of Science.

Q4 I hold a master's degree from the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Can I start the program from the doctoral course?

A4

You must start your course from the beginning, and you can't directly enroll in the doctoral course in the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences. The same thing can be said for a master's degree holder from the Graduate School of Science.

Q5 I intend to participate in the program in either the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences or the Graduate School of Science. Can I just take the master's course without completing the doctoral course?

A5

The program is designed as a five-year course. If you withdraw from the program before completion, the government might impose a penalty on NCU. Therefore, we would like to recruit students who have the motivation and confidence to complete all five years of the course. We would also appreciate it if partner universities would recommend those kinds of students.

Q6 Is there a possibility that the program will be suspended next year due to COVID-19?

A6

We started the program this October, but the MEXT scholarship students could not come to Japan at the beginning due to travel restrictions. We have developed a combination of online and on-campus lectures to deal with the situation. The immigration policy was relaxed in September, and all the participants are expected to be on campus in December. Even if COVID-19 remains a major problem into next year, we hope that the program will be implemented by partially using online methods.

Q7 What degree can I get after completing the program?

A7

Nagoya City University will confer the following degrees on graduating students.  
Graduate School of Medical Sciences: Doctor of Philosophy, Medical Sciences  
Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences: Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy, Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Graduate School of Science: Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy, Science

Q8 Will this scholarship cover the costs of my research activities?

A8

The MEXT scholarship will only cover your living expenses in Japan. Research costs that have been approved by your supervisor will be covered by the university. The university waives tuition fees for MEXT scholarship students.

## 2. Eligibility and application

Q9 What are the eligibility requirements to apply for the program?

A9

You need to meet the following conditions.

- 1) Resident of a country other than Japan.
- 2) Under 35 years of age (Birth date after April 2, 1986)
- 3) English CEFR level of B2 or higher
- 4) MEXT GPA score of 2.30 or higher
- 5) Your research field matches that of the program.

Q10 Do I need Japanese language skill?

A10

Japanese ability is not required for this program. Program courses are conducted in English. You need an English CEFR level of B2 or higher.

Q11 How high is an English CEFR level of B2?

A11

CEFR level B2 is equivalent to an IELTS score of 5.5~6.5 and a TOEFL iBT score of 72~94.

Q12 How can I calculate my MEXT GPA?

A12

MEXT GPAs are scored on a 4-tiered system from 0 to 3. A score of 0 means Fail, 1 is Fair, 2 is Good, and 3 is Excellent. If the GPA of your grade transcript is scaled on a 5-tiered or 100-point grading system, convert them into a MEXT GPA using this formula. Please refer to the following chart.

**Grade formula:**

$$\text{GPA} = ((\text{No. of Credits with GP3} * 3) + (\text{No. of Credits with GP2} * 2) + (\text{No. of Credits with GP1} * 1) + (\text{No. of Credits with GP0} * 0)) / \text{Total Number of Registered credits}$$

	Grade				
4 level rating		Excellent	Good	Fair	Fail
4 level rating		A	B	C	F
4 level rating		100-80	79-70	69-60	59-0
5 level rating	S	A	B	C	F
5 level rating	A	B	C	D	F
5 level rating	100-90	89-80	79-70	69-60	59-0
<b>Grade Point(GP)</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>

Q13 How can I find a potential supervisor and contact him/her?

A13

The application process proceeds as explained on the “MEXT scholarship” page on the NCU website. Please refer to “(2) Application documents to submit” under the category of “University Recommendation (Special Program).”

<https://www.nagoya-cu.ac.jp/international/intl-student/mext/index.html>

- 1) Find a potential supervisor whose research field best matches yours from the “list of supervisors.”
- 2) Check each Graduate School’s website and re-confirm the research field of the potential supervisor. Many professors list their contact address on the website.
- 3) Contact the supervisor and tell him/her about your intention to study at NCU. Discuss your research field and study topic by e-mail or other remote communication method.
- 4) Confirm whether the supervisor is ready to accept and recommend you as a MEXT scholarship student.

Q14 I cannot find the contact address of a potential supervisor.

A14

Ask at the IEC (International Exchange Centre) and inform them of the name of the potential supervisor.

Mail: [ryugaku@sec.nagoya-cu.ac.jp](mailto:ryugaku@sec.nagoya-cu.ac.jp) Tel: +81-52-872-5067

Q15 Can I contact more than one supervisor for my application?

A15

You cannot contact more than one potential supervisor at the same time. You can contact another supervisor after canceling contact with the first. The cancelation should be made with the consent of the relevant supervisor. The deadline must be met.

Q16 Which documents do I need to submit at the time of application?

A16

You need to submit the following documents in January.

- 1) 2021 Application (Research Students)
- 2) Field of Study and Research Plan (Research Proposal)
- 3) Copy of Passport
- 4) Transcripts issued by the university last attended

- 5) Certificate of Graduation or Provisional Certificate of Graduation from the university
- 6) Proof of high performance or good achievement record
- 7) Recommendation Letter from the dean or higher
- 8) Summary of Thesis (free format)
- 9) English Proficiency Test Score Report (TOEFL, IELTS)

Please refer to the guidelines and application forms on the NCU website.

Q17 I am not a student at any of NCU's partner universities. Can I apply for the program?

A17

Students, graduates, and researchers from non-partner universities can apply for the program, but applications from our partner universities will be prioritized.

Q18 I hold a bachelor's degree in nutrition science. Can I apply for the program?

A18

There might be some relevant fields in our three Graduate Schools. You need to check the supervisors' list and the Graduate Schools' websites to find a potential supervisor.

Q19 I do not currently live in my home country. Should I return to my home country to apply for a Japanese VISA, or can I apply from my country of residence?

A19

To enroll in the program, you need to get a Japanese VISA from the Japanese consulate in your home country.

Q20 In our country, pre-university education has been changed from a 10-year to a 12-year system, which means that some medical students have only 16 or 17 years of education after completing a bachelor's degree. Is it possible for them to apply for this program?

A20

If the change to the education system was authorized by the government in your country, they could apply. However, they will be required to submit the appropriate certificates and pass a qualification screening conducted by the Graduate School of Medical Sciences before applying.

Q21 Would it be possible to enroll in another graduate school of NCU through this program?

A21

This program is designated to enter either the Graduate School of Medical Sciences, the Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, or the Graduate School of Science, so if you are interested in another graduate school, you cannot apply for this program. However, if you contact a potential supervisor in another graduate school, he/she may be able to support you in applying for a MEXT Scholarship (University Recommend-general entry).

### 3. Life in Japan after enrollment in the program

Q22 Can I live in Japan with my family?

A22

You can live in Japan with your family members, such as your spouse and children, but your monthly allowance does not change according to how many family members you have. You can invite them to join you after you have settled down and adapted to life in Japan. In some past cases, family members have come after one to two years.

Q23 Can I work part-time in Japan?

A23

You can have a part-time job. However, because priority should always be put on study and research as MEXT scholars, part-time jobs unrelated to university activities are not recommended. Your supervisor's approval is required to start a part-time job. Working hours are limited to 28 hours per week for foreign students.

Q24 Does NCU have a dormitory for foreign students?

A24

Yes. If you are single, you can stay in NCU's dormitory, which has reasonably-priced rent, up to 1.5 years.

Q25 Does the scholarship cover medical insurance?

A25

In Japan, all foreign students require National Health Insurance coverage, which costs JPY21,000 per year. It will cover 70% of your medical expenses.