

2026 Requirements for Research Student Applicants Enrolling in a Doctoral Degree at the Graduate School of Pharmacy at the Niigata University of Pharmacy and Medical and Life Sciences

Aims of Education and Research Activities

The Graduate School of Pharmacy strives to foster sophisticated research capabilities in the fields of pharmaceutical science, medicine and healthcare with the aim of cultivating human resources capable of contributing to society as trusted professionals.

Admissions Policy

1. The type of student we are looking for:

The Graduate School is looking for students who possess the following disposition and motivation.

- Students with a strong desire and passion to contribute to society as specialists aiding the health and independence of people in the future
- Students who possess the communicative abilities and rich sense of humanity required to participate in research activities at an international level
- Students with a strong motivation to learn and scientific curiosity to stay ahead of leading knowledge in the pharmaceutical field

2. Required knowledge and skills for enrollment

- Specialist knowledge of pharmacy, and complementary knowledge of other sciences, and the ability to apply said knowledge
- Research design capabilities for setting issues to be addressed with the study of pharmacy
- The linguistic and communicative abilities needed for learning expertise and communicating information

Research areas and fields open for application

Area	Field
Pharmacy education	Pharmaceutical chemistry, physical chemistry
Medical pharmacy	Pharmacology, pathophysiology, health sciences
Clinical pharmacotherapy	Clinical pharmacy, clinical pharmacokinetics, clinical pharmacotherapy, clinical pharmaceuticals

* Please select a research laboratory from those included in the research fields above, and make note of this in your application form. Make sure to obtain an informal agreement from the professor you wish to supervise your research before submitting an application. If a research supervisor has not been determined, please consult with the Academic Affairs Office Section 1, Administration Department at the Niitsu Campus.

Entrance Examination Schedule

Type of entrance examination	Submission deadline for documents certifying your eligibility as applicant (applicants only)	Application period	Examination date	Announcement date of examination results	Deadline for enrollment procedures
General entrance examination, 1st term	Friday, June 25, 2025	Tuesday, July 22, 2025 to Monday, July 28, 2025	Friday, September 5, 2025	Wednesday, September 17, 2025	Tuesday, September 30, 2025
General entrance examination, 2nd term	Friday, December 5, 2025	Monday, January 26, 2026 to Friday, January 30, 2026	Monday, March 9, 2026	Tuesday, March 17, 2026	Tuesday, March 24, 2026

[Inquiries on Where to Submit Documents and Entrance Examinations]

Entrance Examination Section, Administration Department, Niitsu Campus

265-1 Higashijima, Akiha-ku, Niigata 956-8603

Phone: +81 250-25-5214 (Available from 9AM to 5PM, except for Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays)

E-mail: nyuushi@nupals.ac.jp

<Handling of Personal Information>

- The University follows all laws related to the protection of personal information, and assigns a personal information manager to handle all personal information submitted by applicants.
- Applicant personal information is shared within and used by the University for studies, investigations, research, analysis and so forth regarding entrance examination tasks, enrollment procedures and operations, screening methods, etc. Applicant personal information is also shared within and used by the University for academic affairs and student support activities.

1 Available Student Slots 3

2 Applicant Requirements

Applicants must satisfy one of the following criteria to apply for admission:

- (1) Applicants who have graduated from a complete course of study in the fields of pharmacy (six-year courses only), medicine, dentistry, or veterinary science at a university specified in Article 83 of the Basic Act on Education, or applicants who expect to graduate from the same by March 2026.
- (2) Applicants who hold a master's degree, or expect to obtain a master's degree by March 2026
- (3) Applicants who have completed 18 years of school education in an overseas country, or expect to complete said education by March 2026
- (4) Applicants specially designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (1955 Notification of the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture, No.39)
- (5) Applicants recognized by the Graduate School as having an equivalent level, or higher level of academic ability as persons described in item 1 as a result of preliminary screening, and who will reach 24 years of age by March 31, 2026. Applicants with other enrollment qualifications as prescribed in the Graduate School of Pharmacy at the Niigata University of Pharmacy and Medical and Life Sciences Rules and Regulations

* Notes for persons applying on the basis of applicant requirements (3) to (5)

Applicant requirements will be verified and screened beforehand Contact the office described in [Inquiries on Where to Submit Documents and Entrance Examinations] by phone and follow the instructions provided. Applicants cannot submit an application without their applicant qualifications being verified and screened.

A summary on the verification and screening of applicant requirements is provided on page 5. Please read through this and follow the procedures described (note the submission deadline for verification and screening documents).

3 Application Procedures

Applicants are requested to prepare the following application documents and either submit the documents directly within the abovementioned application period (9AM to 5PM, except for Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays), or send the documents by post.

When sending the application documents and other materials by post, use the registered post service (kani-kakitome), and clearly indicate "Graduate school application form enclosed" on the front of the envelope in red.

- (1) Place to submit application documents and other materials: Entrance Examination Section, Administration Department, Niitsu Campus
- (2) Please pay the entrance examination fee (¥22,000) using either of the prescribed methods below.

- 1) Direct submissions: Purchase a certificate stamp from the Administration Department on the 2nd floor of Building A on the Niitsu Campus, and submit it together with your application documents.
- 2) Postal money orders: Exchange the fee amount for a regular money order at a Japan Post Bank or post office savings counter, and submit it together with your application documents.
- 3) Bank transfers: Transfer the fee amount to the following bank account. The applicant shall bear the cost of bank transfer service fees. Submit a copy of the bank transfer receipt or the ATM statement together with your application documents.

The original copy acts as a receipt, so make sure to store it safely.

Daishi Hokuetsu Bank Main Branch (ordinary savings account)

No.2696584 Account Holder Name: Niigata Yakka Daigaku Yakugakubu

(3) Required Documents

- 1) Application form (University-prescribed format)
- 2) Photo form, examination admission slip, entrance examination fee payment form (University-prescribed format)
- 3) Graduation certificate/certificate of completion (or expected completion) from previous school attended
- 4) Academic transcript from previous school attended
- 5) Abstract summarizing graduate thesis or master's thesis, or research progress report (summary of primary research)
(2,000 characters or less on A4 paper in a format of the applicant's choosing. A research progress report (summary of primary research) need only be submitted by applicants with prior research experience.)
- 6) Personal statement (A4 paper in a format of the applicant's choosing)
- 7) Recommendation by supervisor of graduate thesis or master's thesis (optional, submit on A4 paper in a format of the applicant's choosing)
- 8) Two photos of applicant's face (4 cm x 3 cm in size, taken within three months prior to the application, with the applicant facing forward on a plain background, and without wearing a hat. Write your name on the reverse side of two copies of the same photo, and then affix it in the space provided on the **application form and photo form**)
- 9) Proof of payment of entrance examination fee

- 10) [For applicants intending to continue employment after enrollment] Approval from affiliated organization (University-prescribed format)
- 11) [For applicants applying for foreign language (English) exemptions] Application for exemption from foreign language examination (English) (University-prescribed format), copy of external English proficiency exam certificates/results (external English proficiency exam certificates/results listed on the “Correspondence table for qualifications/proficiency exams and the CEFR” published by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology in March 2018)
* Applicants will be notified of screening results when the examination admission slip is returned.
- 12) [For applicants who wish to take subject other than “Foreign Language (English)” in English only] Application form for special consideration for entrance examinations (University-prescribed format)
- 13) [For foreign applicants only] Copy of your residence card, alien registration card, or passport
* If your name at the time of application is different to the name provided on certification documents due to changing your surname, or for some other reason, please provide additional documents proving your identity (abstract of family register, etc.).

4 Selection Process

Applicants are screened using examinations testing academic ability, oral examinations, presentations, interviews and application documents, and successful applicants are selected based on the results.

- (1) Examination Date: [1st term] Friday, September 5, 2025
[2nd term] Monday, March 9, 2026

- (2) Venue: Niitsu Campus

- (3) Examination Content: 1) Proficiency test English

English-Japanese dictionaries may be used. Dictionaries are provided by the University, and cannot be brought in from outside.

- 2) Oral examination/presentation

Regarding the content described in the abstract of your graduate thesis or master’s thesis, or research progress report. Presentation 20 minutes, question and answer 10 minutes

- 3) Interview

* A detailed schedule for the day will be provided with the examination admission slip sent.

5 Announcement Date of Examination Results

- [1st term] Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at 1 PM
- [2nd term] Tuesday, March 17, 2026 at 1 PM

- The examinee number of successful applicants will be posted on the message board in front of the main entrance to the Niitsu Campus.
- A pass notification will be sent to successful applicants at the same time as this announcement.
- The University does not respond to inquiries via phone regarding application results.

6 Enrollment Procedures

Successful applicants must complete the enrollment procedures within the designated enrollment period by transferring the following payment amounts to a University-specified bank account, and submitting the designated enrollment documents to the University in the manner described in the “Enrollment Guidelines” sent with the pass notification.

Applicants will be notified of the designated enrollment documents in the “Enrollment Guidelines” sent with the pass notification.

- (1) Enrollment period: [1st term] Wednesday, September 17, 2025 to Tuesday, September 30, 2025
[2nd term] Tuesday, March 17, 2026 to Tuesday, March 24, 2026
- (2) Enrollment-related fees: ¥554,660 (enrollment fee ¥200,000, 1st term tuition ¥185,000, facilities fee ¥165,000, service fees ¥4,660)
- (3) Withdrawing from enrollment

School fees and service fees, with the exception of the enrollment fee, will be refunded provided that notice of your intention to withdraw from enrollment is provided (**no later than**) Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at 4 PM. In all other circumstances, only the service fees will be refunded.

To withdraw your enrollment application, please send the Notice of Withdrawal from Enrollment (enclosed with the pass notification) by post (express delivery by registered post). If it is uncertain whether a Notice of Withdrawal from Enrollment sent by the submission deadline described above has been submitted (received by the University), make sure to contact the Entrance Examination Section, Administration Department, Niitsu Campus by 4 PM on the day of the abovementioned submission deadline at the latest. Refunds are only provided in the event said contact is made.

7 School Fees and Service Fees

(1) School fees

1) Enrollment fee: ¥200,000 (Only required at time of enrollment. Graduates of the University, and students who have completed their master's program at the University Graduate School are exempt.)

2) Tuition: ¥370,000 annually (1st term: ¥185,000, 2nd term: ¥185,000)

3) Facilities fee: ¥330,000 annually (1st term: ¥165,000, 2nd term: ¥165,000)

(For graduates of the University, and students who have completed their master's program at the University Graduate School, 1st term: ¥82,500, 2nd term: ¥82,500)

(2) Service fees ¥4,660 yen (Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research and other insurance premiums (four years))

8 Extended Course System

Students wishing to systematically complete the curriculum over a period of time beyond the standard completion period (four years), for work or other reasons, may be permitted to do so, if approved, as extended course students upon submitting a request.

Extended course students may extend the length of the course to five or six years. When doing so, the annual tuition fee will be the total regular four-year tuition fee of ¥1,480,000 divided by the number of years of the extended course. For details, please inquire with the Academic Affairs Office Section 1, Administration Department at the Niitsu Campus.

9 Scholarship System After Enrollment

A scholarship system has been established for students currently enrolled in the Graduate School. For details, please inquire with the scholarship supervisor (0250-28-5397) in the Student Support Section, Administration Department at the Niitsu Campus.

10 Preliminary Consultation Services for Applicants with Disabilities, etc.

Applicants with an illness or physical disability, or persons wishing to request special considerations for completing the course of study, including for examinations and in the course of practical learning are asked to contact the contact point for "Inquiries on Where to Submit Documents and Entrance Examinations" before submitting their application. While the University may not be able to satisfy every request, please notify the University as far in advance as possible, regardless of whether you decide to submit an application, due to the time required to modify school facilities and for the University to address other concerns based on the content of your inquiry.

11 Other Matters

(1) Submitted documents and paid entrance examination fees will not be returned.

(2) If the documents submitted are found to contain false statements, the applicant's admission approval may be revoked.

Verification and Screening of Applicant Qualifications

Applicants who fall under “2 Applicant Requirements (3) to (5)” must contact the University by phone to have their applicant qualifications verified and screen as described below. Note that applicants cannot submit an application without their applicant qualifications being verified and screened.

1 Documents for Submission

Applicants who fall under Applicant Requirement (3) must submit documents 1), 3), 4), 8), and 9).

Applicants who fall under Applicant Requirements (4) or (5) must submit documents 1) through 9) as specified by the University.

- 1) Application qualification confirmation form (University-prescribed format)
- 2) Formal application qualification review form (University-prescribed format)
- 3) Graduation (completion) certificate from previous school attended
- 4) Academic transcript from previous school attended
- 5) Research record (University-prescribed format. Include details of authored works, dissertations, academic reports, scientific lectures, research reports, and patents, etc.)
- 6) Citations from dissertations and lectures, etc. (materials listed in (5))
- 7) Research progress reports (summary of primary research) (only submitted by applicants with prior research experience. Please provide details of past achievements and research performed at universities and research institutes after graduating from university. 2,000 characters or less on A4 paper in a format of the applicant’s choosing)
- 8) Copy of your residence card, alien registration card, or passport (for foreign applicants only)
- 9) Return envelope (120 mm x 235 mm envelope including your name, address, and post code, and ¥360 in stamps.)

* If your name at the time of application is different to the name provided on certification documents due to changing your surname, or for some other reason, please provide additional documents proving your identity (abstract of family register, etc.).

2 Submission Method

The documents for submission are to be submitted directly, or sent by post to the Academic Affairs Office, Administration Department at the Niitsu Campus (9AM to 5PM, except for Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays) within the following submission period.

When sending by post, use the registered post service (kani-kakitome), and clearly indicate “Graduate school application qualification documents enclosed” on the front of the envelope in red.

3 Submission deadline

[1st term] Friday, June 20, 2025 at the latest

[2nd term] Friday, December 5, 2025 at the latest

4 Notification of Verification and Screening Results for Application Qualification

You will be notified of the results of the verification and screening process for your application qualifications by post before the start of the application period.

Applicants recognized as having satisfied the application qualification requirements are asked to complete the application process.

In addition, any documents submitted as part of the application qualification verification and screening process do not need to be resubmitted in duplicate during the application process.

5 Application Mailing Address and Contact Point for Inquiries

Entrance Examination Section, Administration Department, Niitsu Campus

265-1 Higashijima, Akiha-ku, Niigata 956-8603

Phone: +81 250-25-5214 (Available from 9AM to 5PM, except for Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays)

E-mail: nyuushi@nupals.ac.jp

○ List of Research Areas/Fields Accepting Applications for Doctoral Degrees at the Graduate School of Pharmacy at the Niigata University of Pharmacy and Medical and Life Sciences

Some details may be subject to change

Area	Field	Research Laboratory	Supervising Professor		Research Overview
			Job Title/Degree	Name	
Pharmacy education	Pharmaceutical Chemistry	Pharmaceutical chemistry	Professor, Doctor of Pharmacy	Takumichi Sugihara	We study the development of highly efficient molecular transformation reactions and novel gas immobilization reactions applicable in drug synthesis, and research drug synthesis based on new concepts.
	Pharmaceutical Materials Chemistry	Pharmacognosy	Professor, Doctor (Pharmacy)	Hiroyuki Fuchino	Development of quality evaluation methods for crude drugs with the diversity of their ingredients in mind and search for new useful ingredients.
	Physical Chemistry	Physical chemistry in pharmaceutics	Professor, Doctor (Science)	Kennosuke Hoshina	We investigate the mechanisms of novel chemical reactions based on photophysical chemistry and quantum chemical calculations, evaluating the effect of physical stimuli in a broad sense on physical properties of pharmaceuticals and the reactions of a living body, in addition to applied research into analytical methods.
Medical pharmacy	Pharmacology	Functional Morphology	Associate Professor, Doctor (Science)	Takeo Iwata	We study the mechanism of pathogenesis in endocrine and metabolic diseases, and related complications.
		Pharmacognosy	Professor, Doctor (Pharmacy)	Takehiko Maeda	We perform basic research analyzing the medicinal action in opioid analgesics and other drugs used to treat chronic pain, conduct exploratory research for new mechanisms of action and new drugs to treat chronic pain, and to establish new pain treatments that avoid adverse drug reactions.
	Pathophysiology	Biochemistry	Professor, Doctor (Pharmacy)	Akihiko Komuro	We perform basic research in an aim to uncover the molecular mechanisms of action in natural antiviral immunity, and the interaction between viruses and host factors.
		Microbiology	Associate Professor, Doctor (Pharmacy) Associate Professor, Doctor (Science)	Masahiro Fukuhara Toshio Yamaguchi	We study bacterial growth in various environmental conditions, and perform a genetic analysis of drug resistant clinical isolates.
	Health sciences	Hygienic chemistry	Professor, Doctor (Pharmacy) Associate Professor, Doctor (Pharmacy), Doctor (Health Sciences)	Toshiyuki Sakamaki Eriko Tomitsuka	We perform analysis of molecular biological characterization in cancer cell growth and metastasis control.
		Social Pharmacy	Professor, Doctor (Pharmaceutical Science)	Yoshiko Tominaga	We study the occupational ability of pharmacists and inter-occupational coordination. We investigate ways to encourage behavioral change in patients. We look at lifestyle disease prevention at pharmacies.
	Clinical pharmacy	Analytical pharmaceutical chemistry	Professor, Doctor (Pharmacy)	Kohichi Kawahara	We perform analytical chemical research on ligand-receptor interactions and study subspecies of microglia.
Clinical pharmacotherapy	Clinical pharmacokinetics	Biopharmaceutics	Professor, Doctor (Pharmacy)	Takahiro Kubota	We conduct exploratory research for mutant genes causing changes in drug sensitivity among individuals, and analyze the impact these genes have on the phenotype. We also work on the development of reagents capable of detecting genetic differences simply and quickly for use in clinical applications.
	Clinical pharmacotherapy	Clinical pharmacotherapy	Associate Professor, Doctor (Pharmacy)	Junkichi Kanda	We conduct basic research into clarifying the condition of metabolic bone diseases and drug therapy that accounts for chronopharmacology.

	Clinical pharmaceutics	Clinical pharmacy	Professor, Doctor (Pharmacy) Professor, Doctor (Pharmacy) Associate Professor, Doctor (Medicine)	Toshinari Asakura Mikio Saito Daisuke Nagano	We conduct research into the appropriate use of antidiabetic drugs and devices, and the development of drugs and therapeutic aids aimed at improving the patient's QOL. We conduct clinical analysis into drug hypersensitivity and other adverse reactions, and risk factors for avoiding or alleviating the occurrence of adverse drug reactions.
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