

Graduate School of Brain Science

Admissions Guide for International Students

April 2026 Entry

I. Degree, Major, Cluster, Student Status and Number of Students Admitted

Degree	Major	Student Status	Number of Students Admitted
Integrated Doctoral Degree Program	Brain Development and Aging	Regular	Limited
		Special	Limited
Integrated Doctoral Degree Program 【for transfer to the third year】	Brain Development and Aging	Regular	Limited
		Special	Limited

※Standard period of study is 5 years for Integrated Doctoral Degree Program and 3 years for Integrated Doctoral Degree Program 【for transfer to the third year】 .

II. Qualifications for Applicants

1. Integrated Doctoral Degree Program:

Those who have foreign nationalities and who satisfy one of the following qualifications are eligible:

- (1) Those who have a transcript attesting to the equivalent of 16 years of education outside Japan or are expected to have one before the end of March 2026.
 ※The period of attendance at educational institutions based on School Education Act of Japan must be 4 years or less. The period of attendance at international schools in Japan or overseas Japanese schools approved by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, it's regarded as the one studying at educational institutions regulated by the Japanese educational system.
- (2) Those who have graduated from a college in Japan as a foreign student or who are expected to graduate before the end of March 2026.
- (3) Those who have been granted a degree corresponding to a bachelor's degree by completing a program where the course term is 3 years or more in overseas universities or other overseas schools (limited to those whose comprehensive situation of educational and research activities have either received evaluation from a person who was authorized by the corresponding country's government or related institutions, or which have been separately designated as being equivalent to such by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology) or are expected to be granted a degree corresponding to a bachelor's degree before the end of March 2026.
- (4) Those who have a transcript attesting to the equivalent of 15 years of education outside Japan and are recognized by Doshisha University as achieving a high level of academic excellence or are expected to have one before the end of March 2026.
- (5) Those who Doshisha University recognizes as having an equivalent qualification to one of the above requirements (1) (2) (3) (4), and who are 22 years or older by the time of enrollment, will be considered for admission.

2. Integrated Doctoral Degree Program 【for transfer to the third year】 :

Those who have foreign nationalities and who satisfy one of the following qualifications are eligible:

- (1) Those who have a master's degree or professional degree outside Japan or are expected to obtain a degree before the end of March 2026.
- (2) Those who have a master's degree or professional degree in Japan as a foreign student or who are expected to obtain a degree before the end of March 2026.
- (3) Those who Doshisha University recognizes as having an equivalent qualification to one of the above requirements (1) (2), and who are 24 years or older by the time of enrollment, will be considered for admission.

■Note

- 1 : Prior to application, those who fall under sections 1. (3) (4) (5) and 2. (3) [see above] should submit the forms [see below] to the Office of Graduate School of Brain Science (Kyotanabe Campus) before Wednesday, June 11, 2025 (Round 1 applicants) or Friday, July 11, 2025 (Round 2 applicants) for the certificate of qualifications. (See the contact address on the back cover.)

①Curriculum Vitae

②Transcript or certificate of highest academic attainment or certificate for expected completion

③Transcript or certificate of highest academic records

Additional certificates/documents and interview may be required during the screening process.

- 2 : Applicants should consult the Section for International Admissions, Office of International Students, International Center (Imadegawa Campus), prior to application, for any questions concerning the qualifications.

- 3 : Admission will be denied if the applicant who passes the entrance examination does not meet the application requirements by the end of March 2026.

The Graduate School of Brain Science offers “Doshisha University Graduate School of Brain Science Special Scholarship” to the regular students enrolled at the Graduate School of Brain Science. Eligible applicants are those who have passed the entrance examination of the Graduate School of Brain Science and are under the age of 32 (for transfer students, under the age of 34) as of April 1, 2026. All applicants who meet these requirements are eligible. For details, see “Doshisha University Graduate School of Brain Science Special Scholarship” on page 278

III. Application Schedule

Degree	Round	Admission Type	Residence	Student Status	Application Period	Notification of Application Screening Result	Interview Period	Examination Date	Notification of Result
Integrated Doctoral Degree Program	1	General Applicants	Japan Abroad	Regular Special	July 3 (Thu), - July 18 (Fri), 2025 No later than 5:00 p.m. (Japan time)	August 22 (Fri), 2025	November 4 (Tue), - November 18 (Tue), 2025	December 6 (Sat), 2025	December 17 (Wed), 2025
Integrated Doctoral Degree Program [for transfer to the third year]	2				September 2 (Tue), - September 17 (Wed), 2025 No later than 5:00 p.m. (Japan time)	October 10 (Fri), 2025			

IV. Application Procedure

Degree	Round	Admission Type	Residence	Student Status	Application Fee	Period for Payment of Application Fee	Application Period
Integrated Doctoral Degree Program	1	General Applicants	Japan Abroad	Regular Special	15,000 yen	June 26 (Thu), - July 18 (Fri), 2025	July 3 (Thu), - July 18 (Fri), 2025 No later than 5:00 p.m. (Japan time)
Integrated Doctoral Degree Program [for transfer to the third year]	2					August 21 (Thu), - September 17 (Wed), 2025	September 2 (Tue), - September 17 (Wed), 2025 No later than 5:00 p.m. (Japan time)

As for the payment of the Application Fees, the important notes on application documents and submission, see on page 14 to 15 and “III. Payment of Application Fees” on page 255 to 258.

V. Application Documents (including this “List of Required Documents”)

Name _____

Check one you are applying for

- ☐ Integrated Doctoral Degree Program
☐ Integrated Doctoral Degree Program
 【for transfer to the third year】

The prescribed forms for application documents can be obtained from the following URL.
https://intad.doshisha.ac.jp/intad/en/admissions/guide_entrance_exam_g.html

Please note that a color photocopy or a printed copy of a document downloaded from the internet with printed seal/signature is not considered an original. If you have any questions, please contact the Section for International Admissions, Office of International Students, International Center as soon as possible.

	Type of Document	Note	Check
1	Application for Admission to Doshisha University [Form① (Provided)]	Application form should be filled out by the applicant. ID photo (3cm H×2.4cm W) must be attached. Please make sure to sign the applicant's signature in your own handwriting in the signature line (page 3).	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Certificate of Graduation (or Certificate of Expected Graduation) of highest academic attainment	Original: may be returned to the applicant upon request. For details, see page 15 [3. Important Notes on Application Documents] ③ and ④. ※Both graduation certificate and certificate of Master's degree should be submitted if both certificates are issued.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Official Transcripts	Original: may be returned to the applicant upon request. For details, see page 15 [3. Important Notes on Application Documents] ③ and ④. 1) Integrated Doctoral Degree Program A list of all undergraduate credits obtained at the applicant's college or university. 2) Integrated Doctoral Degree Program 【for transfer to the third year】 A list of all previous undergraduate and graduate study credits obtained at the undergraduate and graduate courses.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	Two Letters of Recommendation (No format provided)	Written by a faculty or staff member of an educational or research institution. ※MUST be sealed by a recommender.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	Research Outline (No format provided)	Write your research plan after admission either in Japanese or in English on A4-size paper (three sheets and write on only one side).	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	Essay (No format provided)	An essay written in English on A4-size paper (two one-side pages maximum). The essay should include the four sections described below. Section(1) reasons for applying Section(2) research and study interests Section(3) future career plans Section(4) other aspects of your background and interests which may aid our evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	Choice of Laboratory Sheet [Form-Brain① (Provided)]	Applicants are required to write their first choice and second choice laboratory (Applicants for transfer to the third year are required to write only their first choice laboratory). Inquiries regarding the field of research etc. of each laboratory should be sent to the relevant laboratories prior to the application. For contact information, please see the “Choice of Laboratory Sheet”.	<input type="checkbox"/>
8	<div>Applicants residing in Japan</div> <div>a Copy of Resident Card</div> <div>or</div> <div>Certificate of Items Stated in Resident Register (Must be Original)</div> <div>Applicants residing abroad</div> <div>a Copy of Passport</div> <p>※Read 3. Residence [Japan or Abroad] under 1. Application Flowchart on page 11 carefully and submit the document required for the category that applies to you.</p>	<div>Applicants residing in Japan</div> <p>Either of the following ① or ②: ① Resident Card: submit copies of both front and back of the card, in A4 size. ② Certificate of Items Stated in Resident Register: must include nationality, status of residence, period of stay and date of expiration.</p> <div>Applicants residing abroad</div> <p>Passport: submit a copy of the page, in A4 size, which includes your photograph and name.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Examination admission card [Form③ (Provided)]	Please fill out the examination admission card. After receipt of the completed documents, an examination card with examinee's number printed on it will be sent to you.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10	A Photo identification card [Form③ (Provided)]	Affix photograph in space provided on photo identification card. (Photograph should have been taken within 3 months prior to application and should be 3cm H × 2.4cm W, clearly displaying a frontal, hatless view of the upper part of the body. Be sure to write your name and birth date on the back of the photograph.) When your admission is permitted, the photograph will be used for your student ID card, database of students admitted, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>

〈Continued on the reverse side〉

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	Type of Document	Note	Check
11	Proof of Payment of Application Fee	<p>Payment by credit card Submit a copy (A4-size or similarly sized paper) of the remittance "Result" page.</p> <p>Payment at convenience store (Applicants residing in Japan only) Paste the certificate of payment on the prescribed "Pasteboard for the Receipt of Remittance (Prescribed Form ⑥)."</p> <p>Payment by bank transfer (Applicants residing in Japan only) The receipt of the remittance of the Application Fee (Prescribed Form ⑤-5) bearing the authorization of the remittance bank must be pasted onto the prescribed "Pasteboard for the Receipt of Remittance" (Prescribed Form ⑥).</p> <p>Remittance from a financial institution (Applicants residing abroad only) Submit the receipt of the remittance bearing the authorization of your remittance bank.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Document certifying English proficiency	<p>Please submit the original certificate of the most recent TOEFL iBT® TEST or IELTS (Academic Module). A copy is not accepted. IELTS on Computer or IELTS for UKVI is also acceptable. TOEFL iBT® Home Edition (TOEFL iBT® Special Home Edition), IELTS Online and IELTS One Skill Retake scores will not be accepted. Please check the right box <input type="checkbox"/> if you intend to send your TOEFL iBT® TEST or IELTS score report directly from the test center to Doshisha University. Only the score reports which reach Doshisha University on or before the application deadline can be accepted. (Score reports delivered to Doshisha University prior to the application period are also acceptable.) Note we do not respond to the applicants' inquiries about the arrival of their score reports. DI code for TOEFL score report (Institutional Score Report / Official Score Report) is 7078.</p>	<p>Enclosed to Application Documents <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>..... OR Submit from the test center <input type="checkbox"/></p>
13	Mailing labels [Form④ (Provided)]	Please write your name and mailing address to receive information about examination and your examination result.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14	List of Required Documents (this form)	Check the box <input type="checkbox"/> to confirm you have prepared all the required documents, and submit the required documents together with this checklist. Print and keep a copy of this checklist for your record as you may be inquired regarding your submission of the documents.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Those who wish to have their original document(s) returned			
	<p>A request for returning original document ※No format provided</p>	<p>Does your request for returning original document include 1) name of the document, 2) your name, and 3) address to which the document should be returned? ※Documents submitted will generally not be returned to the applicant; however, document(s) that cannot be reissued, such as a diploma, may be returned. ※We will return such document(s) only when a request for returning original document is enclosed in the application packet.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>

VI. Selection Process

The application screening, interview and oral examination are conducted by the faculty members of Graduate School of Brain Science. Applicants will be notified of the results of the screening of your application. Only those who pass the application screening will be invited to interview and oral examination conducted by the faculty members of Graduate School of Brain Science using a video conferencing service such as ZOOM (see page 183). Following the oral examination, applicants will be notified of the final decision.

■ Examination Admission Card

Numbered examination admission card will be sent out around Friday, July 25, 2025 for all Round 1 applicants and around Friday, September 26, 2025 for all Round 2 applicants after confirmation that the applicant is qualified to apply. If you do not receive the examination admission card by Friday, August 1 (Round 1 applicants) or Friday, October 3 (Round 2 applicants), contact the Office of Graduate School of Brain Science.

※Applicants will be notified of the time of examinations, etc. after their application forms are received by the University.

※Inquiries after receiving the examination admission card may be directly sent to the Office of Graduate School of Brain Science.

VII. Examination Date / Subjects / Venue

■ Integrated Doctoral Degree Program (Regular Students • Special Students)

Integrated Doctoral Degree Program [for transfer to the third year] (Regular Students • Special Students)

Date of examination	10:00~
December 6, 2025	Oral Examination

■ Note

Oral examination will be conducted in English and based primarily on the information provided in the application documents. However, transfer student applicants will be asked to give a 10 min presentation on their master's thesis research (or equivalent) on which the examination will be focused.

VIII. Notification of Result

December 17 (Wed), 2025

See "IV. Notification of Result" (page 259).

For your reference, see "V. Initial Registration Procedures" and "VI. Other Important Information" (page 262-264).