

# **UEC Doctor Course Student Support Program Application Guidelines for Next-Generation Researchers in 2025**

## **1. Objectives of this program**

The University of Electro-Communications (hereinafter referred to as "the University") has been selected by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (hereinafter referred to as "JST") for the Next Generation Researcher Challenge Research Program. In order to strengthen the support for aspiring doctoral students, we will hire excellent doctoral students as the next generation of researchers at the university, and develop distinctive doctoral human resources by 1) building a unique network of researchers, 2) fostering development skills that will lead to products that demonstrate originality, and 3) learning Asian languages so that the students can move on to research in their own specialized fields.

The next generation researchers will be provided with "living expense equivalent" and "research expense equivalent".

## **2. Application Requirements**

The following students are eligible to apply:

- (1) Those scheduled to enroll in the doctoral program at our university in April 2025.  
(For those who passed the entrance examination conducted in August 2024, and for those planning to apply for the entrance examination in February 2025.)
- (2) Those who enrolled in the doctoral program at our university in April 2024 and October 2024.

However, those who fall under any of the following after April 1, 2025 are not eligible to apply.

- (a) Special Researcher (DC1) of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)
- (b) Foreign students at national expense
- (c) Foreign students sent by foreign governments
- (d) Those who receive a stable income (2.4 million yen or more per year) such as a salary that is sufficient to cover living expenses from their company, etc.
- (e) Students on leave of absence
- (f) Those who have applied for the long-term course system

## **3. Number of students employed**

12 people in total for application qualifications (1) and (2).

#### **4. Period of Employment**

Application eligibility

(1) From April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2028.

(2) For students enrolling in April 2024: From April 1, 2025, to March 31, 2027

For students enrolling in October 2024: From April 1, 2025, to September 30, 2027

#### **5. Support contents**

(1) Amount equivalent to living expenses

Next-generation researchers will receive 183,750 yen per month (2,205,000 yen per year) as a living expense allowance.

Attention 1) Income Tax and Resident Tax

The amount equivalent to living expenses is treated as miscellaneous income under the tax law and is subject to income tax and inhabitant tax, so each student is required to file a tax return.

Specifically, the amount of living expenses for the period from January 1 to December 31, after deducting tuition fees and other necessary expenses for commuting and teaching materials, etc., is taxable as miscellaneous income. The amount of taxable income for the following year is calculated according to the total amount of other income such as employment income ("total income").

In addition, if you are a dependent of your parents, etc. under the tax law, you will not be able to receive the exemption for dependents if your total income exceeds 480,000 yen.

Attention 2) Loss of Dependent Requirement for Health Insurance

In the case that the next generation researcher is a dependent of his/her parents' health insurance or mutual aid association, if the estimated annual amount of his/her constant income including living expenses becomes 1.3 million yen or more, he/she will no longer be required to be a dependent of his/her parents. (Please also contact the person in charge at your parent's workplace, etc.)

If you no longer meet the requirements for dependents, you will need to join the National Health Insurance system yourself.

Attention 3) Payment of National Pension Insurance Premiums

If your income is below a certain level, you can apply for the "Special Student Payment System" to defer the payment of National Pension Insurance premiums while you are in school.

## (2) Research expense equivalent

Based on the budget application to be submitted separately after the hiring of the next generation researcher, the allocation will be within the range of 1.2 million yen per fiscal year.

- Expenses for the development of recurrent/reskilling education tools
- Expenses required for the development of short-term joint research projects.
- Challenging research expenses (for research aimed at the development of one's own research)

## 6. Application Documents

### (1) Next Generation Researcher Application Form

- (1) Name, date of birth, address and contact information, name of major, name of primary supervisor, and other information
- (2) Proposal for short-term joint research assuming a research institute in Japan.
- (3) Proposals for recurrent education tools for researchers and engineers
- (4) Proposals for launching venture company.

※Note: You must complete all items (1) through (4) on your application form. The application form should include (2) a proposed research plan at a research institution in the Tama area that is different from the research field in which you specialize, and (3) a proposed educational program that can be used for re-education for working people that demonstrates originality in a field in which you specialize or in which you can utilize your skills.

Short-term joint research will be conducted at the following five research institutes in the Tama area, for example. It is also possible to make proposals to other research institutes.

1. National Institute of Polar Research [click](#)
2. National Astronomical Observatory of Japan [click](#)
3. National Institute of Information and Communications Technology [click](#)
4. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency [click](#)
5. NTT Science and Core Technology Laboratory Group [click](#)

### (2) Written oath (oath of compliance)

Please read the compliance statement carefully before signing.

## 7. Application period and how to submit application documents

Application period: **November 20 (Wednesday), 2024 - December 16 (Monday), 5:00 p.m, 2024.**

Application documents must be submitted (uploaded) from the dedicated website **by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, December 16, 2024.**

The dedicated upload site will be announced below. Please check this page for more information.

[http://gt\\_ils.ils.uec.ac.jp/UEC\\_Jisedai/english/index\\_eng.html](http://gt_ils.ils.uec.ac.jp/UEC_Jisedai/english/index_eng.html)

## **8. Student selection process**

The selection of students will be based on a written review by a panel of judges consisting of collaborators from industry and external research institutions participating in this project.

Depending on the results of the written screening, an interview may be conducted. In the case of an interview, the date and time of the interview will be notified to the applicant by e-mail.

## **9. Selection Policy**

In particular, the following are the main considerations in the selection process.

(1) For short-term joint research project proposals, the first selection criterion is whether the project can be launched in a short period of time (six months) and whether the acceptability of the partner institution is taken into consideration.

The second evaluation point is whether or not the student is willing to take on the challenge of research in a different field. On the other hand, we do not strongly seek detailed matching with partner researchers.

The purpose of this program is for students to build their own researcher network by producing and completing some kind of development results with researchers from the partner institutions in six months. For this reason, proposals that are expected to take a long time to complete will not be evaluated.

(2) Originality is the most important aspect to be evaluated in the recurrent/reskilling education tool development proposals. In particular, since the screening committee is composed of researchers and engineers mainly from the industrial world, proposals that are effective in educating working adults will be highly evaluated.

(3) For venture proposals, we evaluate feasibility, originality of the idea, matching with needs, etc.

## **10. Notification of selection results**

The results of the selection process will be announced via e-mail around end of October 2024.

## **11. Payment of living expenses and use of research funds**

The amount equivalent to living expenses will be paid monthly by transfer to the account designated by the Next Generation Researcher.

Research expenses are managed by the budget supervisor. Next-generation researchers should request the amount approved by the budget application for the purchase of goods and travel expenses through the Ph.D Students Support Office.

## **12. Duties of Next Generation Researchers**

Students who are selected as Next Generation Researchers have the following obligations.

- (1) You must devote yourself to research based on the research plan you have applied for.
- (2) Attendance at three programs: Short-term Joint Research Project Development, Recurrent Education Tool Development for Researchers and Engineers, and Asian Language Learning Program.
- (3) A research status report for each year must be submitted by the prescribed time.
- (4) You must participate in social events, workshops, etc. designated by the university for the purpose of improving your research ability and obtaining a career path as a researcher.
- (5) Comply with university regulations regarding research misconduct and misuse of research funds.
- (6) Research ethics training APRIN e-learning program (eAPRIN) must be taken
- (7) To cooperate with the monitoring survey by JST and the follow-up survey after completion of the graduate school doctoral program.

## **13. Cancellation of employment**

In any of the following cases, the employment as a Next Generation Researcher must be cancelled or rescinded, or the support period must be terminated, and, if necessary, the amount equivalent to the living expenses and research expenses already paid must be returned.

- (1) If, after being selected for employment, you will receive a research fellowship from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), a scholarship from the Japanese Government Scholarship Program for International Students, or a scholarship provided by a foreign government.
- (2) If, after being selected for employment, you will receive a salary or other stable income (2.4 million yen or more per year) from a company or other organization sufficient to cover living expenses.
- (3) When it is clear that the research cannot be continued due to illness, etc.
- (4) In the case of a leave of absence from the University (except when it does not interfere with the research plan).
- (5) Withdrawal from the University (including expulsion).

- (6) In case of disciplinary action.
- (7) In the case of poor academic performance.
- (8) If any falsehoods are found in the documents and other information provided in the various procedures after the employment decision is made.
- (9) Misconduct in research activities or misuse of research funds
- (10) When applying for the long-term course system
- (11) When any other violation of the duties of a Next Generation Researcher or unsuitable behavior becomes apparent.

#### **14. Publication of names**

Those who are selected as Next Generation Researchers will have their names and other information published on the university's website.

#### **15. Handling of Personal Information**

Personal information contained in the application documents will be strictly managed in accordance with the "Personal Information Protection Rules of the University of Electro-Communications" and will be used only for the purpose of carrying out the work of the University of Electro-Communications Doctoral Course Student Support Project. In addition, part of the personal information will be used for the monitoring survey by JST and the follow-up survey after the completion of the graduate school doctoral program.

#### **16. Contact information**

Ph.D Students Support Office

E-mail: [jisedai@office.uec.ac.jp](mailto:jisedai@office.uec.ac.jp)

Phone: 042-443-5881