

## Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion Application Guidelines, October 2025

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Kanazawa University has received information that the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) is considering a review of Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation (JST-SPRING), which is run by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST). Accordingly, it may be necessary to review the system and contents of the program in 'SPRING Project for Doctoral Talents in Creating Novel Values (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING)', which Kanazawa University is implementing with the support of JST-SPRING.

Please note that this call for applications for HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING and Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> will be conducted on condition that the support project to doctoral students by Japanese government for doctoral students continues from FY 2026 onwards, and that there is a possibility of changes in Qualifications for application based on nationality or status of residence, reduction in the scale of support, or changes in content due to a review of the system by Japanese government. Please understand in advance.

## Important Notes on Application

Doctoral talents are expected to contribute "Science, technology, and innovation in Japan."

Kanazawa University also focuses on fostering and producing doctoral talents with one of the significant missions for Kanazawa University to strengthen the functions of the graduate school, and thereby enhance its research capabilities.

The following projects implemented under the "Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>)" are all carried out by Kanazawa University supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), and the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST).

### [HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> projects]

- WISE Program for Nano-Precision Medicine, Science, and Technology (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for WISE) \*1
- SPRING Project for Doctoral Talents in Creating Novel Values (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING)
- BOOST Project for Trailblazing AI Crossover Doctoral Talents (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST) \*2
- Preliminary Selection of Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion (Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>) \*3

\*1 New adoption for HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for WISE was terminated after adoption for April 2025.

\*2 HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST will NOT accept applications in October 2025.

\*3 Applications for Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> will only be open to Japanese students in accordance with the policy of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) from the call for applications in October 2025 onwards.

These projects provide an environment where excellent students of the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course (hereinafter referred to as "doctoral students") being responsible for the future of science, technology, and innovation in Japan to concentrate on their research without financial worries, as well as various supports for career development as doctoral talents.

Therefore, applicants are to understand the following matters and carefully read and confirm this Application Guidelines before applying.

1. An awardee will be required to present research achievements in academic conferences and academic journals, and complete doctoral course of Kanazawa University within standard period of course as a student supported by Japanese government funding to develop doctoral talents who will contribute to "Science, technology and innovation in Japan."
2. In order to increase independence and activeness in going on to doctoral course, and to increase responsibility for conducting research in doctoral course, HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> does not apply the exemption of admission fee and offer only half-tuition fee exemption for students selected for HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING and HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST from April 2024 onwards.
3. HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> will take action such as suspending the support, cancelling the award or demanding the refund of all of the financial supports in the case that HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> finds and confirms the fact that an awardee is in conflict with the Qualifications for application or Obligations of awardees.
4. Career of each awardee will be tracked for more than 10 years after completing the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course as a selected student supported by Japanese government funding.

## Selection Schedule

Note: All dates and times in this Application Guidelines are Japan Standard Time (JST).

		Reference for details
Application period	July 17 (Thu), 2025 - Noon on August 4 (Mon), 2025 [Must arrive] Note: only those applications submitted by both applicant and supervisor (planned) within the application period will be accepted.	p. 10
Notification of Eligibility for Interview	By August 19 (Tue), 2025 Note: HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> will notify those eligible for the Interview of the date and time as well as details of Interview.	p. 11
Deadline for submitting slide data for Interview	Noon on August 20 (Wed), 2025 [Must arrive] Note: If not submitted by the deadline, an applicant will be deemed to have declined Interview.	
Interview	Conducted in late August 2025 (including Saturdays and Sundays) Note: Interview date and time for each applicant will be specified by HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> .	
Announcement of the Selection Result	By the end of September, 2025	
Date of Adoption of HaKaSe <sup>+</sup>	October 1 (Wed), 2025	

## 0. Overview of the Support from HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>

The following table indicates overview and the financial support for each project of “Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>)” and the students who are eligible to apply for individual projects in the selection of October 2025.

		WISE Program for Nano-Precision Medicine, Science, and Technology (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for WISE)	SPRING Project for Doctoral Talents in Creating Novel Values (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for SPRING)	BOOST Project for Trailblazing AI Crossover Doctoral Talents (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for BOOST)	Preliminary Selection of Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion (Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> )
Funding Agency		Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)	Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)	Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)	Unique system of Kanazawa University
Content of project		Degree course	Support for research and career formation	Promoting cultivation of doctoral talents and cutting-edge research and development in both AI field and emerging/integrated areas in AI field (Next-generation AI field)	Financial support for those who pledge to go on to the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course of Kanazawa University
Final year of new recruitment		FY2025	FY2026	FY2026	—
Capacity		12/fiscal year	160 (Total for the year)	1/fiscal year	ca. 10/fiscal year
Support period (in principle)		For 5 years consisting of 2 years of Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's course and 3 years of Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course, or for 4 years of 4-year Doctoral Course; within standard period of courses	Within standard period of Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course or of 4-year Doctoral Course	Within standard period of Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course or of 4-year Doctoral Course	Within standard period of Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course
Applicable course  As of October 1, 2025	Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course	New adoption was terminated after adoption for April 2025. Applications will not be accepted from October 2025 onwards.	NA	HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for BOOST will NOT accept applications in October 2025.	✓ (Only for those enrolled for less than 12 months) <b>Japanese students only</b>
	Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course		✓		NA
	4-year Doctoral Course		✓		NA
Outline of financial support contents  Apply to FY2025	Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course	Grant for living expenses per month	50,000 yen (in principle)		—
		RA salary	ca. 360,000 yen per year maximum		—
	Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course	Grant for living expenses per month	180,000 yen (in principle)	180,000 yen	250,000 yen
		Research fund per year	400,000 yen	400,000 yen	900,000 yen
		RA salary	ca. 240,000 yen per year maximum (Only for those in the first year of 4-year Doctoral Course)	—	—
	Support for travel expenses, etc.		Support unique to the project available	Support unique to the project available	—
	Exemption of Admission fee		Full exemption	—	Full exemption (Only for those enrolling in the year and month of adoption)
	Exemption of Tuition fee		Full exemption	Half exemption	Full exemption
Obligations of awardees Note: read and confirm the details of 3. Application Requirements, 2) Qualifications for application and 7. Obligations of Awardees		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awardees are to concentrate on their study and research, present research achievements in academic conferences and academic journals, and complete doctoral course of Kanazawa University within standard period of course.</li> <li>Awardees are to participate in programs for improving research capability and career development, and to respond to participant surveys and follow-up.</li> <li>The selection of the program to participate and the number of times of participation must meet the requirements indicated separately by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.</li> <li>Awardees are to participate in programs on the basis of fulfilling the specified requirements set by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for improving research capability and career development, and to respond to participant surveys and follow-up.</li> <li>Awardees are to report the progress and the results of the research every fiscal year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awardees are to concentrate on their study and research, present research achievements in academic conferences and academic journals, and complete doctoral course of Kanazawa University within standard period of course.</li> <li>Awardees are to participate in programs for improving research capability and career development, and to respond to participant surveys and follow-up.</li> <li>The selection of the program to participate and the number of times of participation must meet the requirements indicated separately by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.</li> <li>Awardees are to report the progress and the results of the research every fiscal year.</li> </ul> <p>[International students] In the case of international students, they must pledge that they are to be employed at a Japanese company, university, research entity, etc. (including overseas subsidiary) or an internationally affiliated company in Japan for 3 years or more after completing the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course of Kanazawa University.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awardees are to concentrate on their study and research, present research achievements in academic conferences and academic journals, and complete doctoral course of Kanazawa University within standard period of course.</li> <li>Awardees are to participate in "AI theoretical education", "AI lectures and practical training", "AI catch-up seminars", and "AI research exchanges" conducted by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST.</li> <li>Awardees are to present AI research in academic conferences and academic journals during the support period.</li> <li>Awardees are willing to participate in programs for improving research capability and career development, and to respond to participant surveys and follow-up.</li> <li>The selection of the program to participate and the number of times of participation must meet the requirements indicated separately by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.</li> <li>Awardees are to report the progress and the results of the research every fiscal year.</li> </ul> <p>[International students] In the case of international students, they must pledge that they are to be employed at a Japanese company, university, research entity, etc. (including overseas subsidiary) or an internationally affiliated company in Japan for 3 years or more after completing the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course of Kanazawa University.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preliminary awardees must pledge to go on to the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course of Kanazawa University and to play an active role after obtaining a doctoral degree.</li> <li>After passing the entrance examination for the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course of the relevant division of graduate school of Kanazawa University, they are to take the Selection Screening of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.</li> <li>Preliminary awardees who enroll in the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course are to complete the course with Qualifying Examination (QE).</li> <li>Preliminary awardees are to concentrate on their study and research, present research achievements in academic conferences and academic journals, and complete doctoral course of Kanazawa University within standard period of course.</li> <li>Awardees are to participate in programs for improving research capability and career development, and to respond to participant surveys and follow-up.</li> <li>The selection of the program to participate and the number of times of participation must meet the requirements indicated separately by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.</li> <li>Preliminary awardees are to report the progress and the results of the research every fiscal year.</li> </ul>

[Application documents]

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Application Forms A-1, B-1, C-1</li> <li>- Transcripts</li> <li>- Recommendation letter of supervisor (planned)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Application Forms A-2, B-2, C-2</li> <li>- Transcripts</li> <li>- Recommendation letter of supervisor (planned)</li> </ul>
<p>Note 1: Only for those who earn income such as a salary and executive compensation from the company, etc., to which they belong, after October 1, 2025. Documents proving employment status, working conditions and income</p> <p>Note 2: Only for those who are planning to enroll on October 1, 2025. Notification of acceptance (copy) or Entrance examination ticket (copy) for the relevant division of the graduate school</p>

**Note 1: For details on the support target of individual projects, be sure to read and understand 2. Outline of the Support, 1) Graduate school, course and division as the target for support, and 3. Application Requirements.**

**Note 2: Read page 3 and following carefully before preparing the application documents.**

## 1. Purpose and Outline of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>

Kanazawa University is focusing on fostering and producing doctoral talents who will be the seed of innovation both in Japan and around the world, and be responsible for creating a future society.

The “**Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>)**” has the following individual projects as major pillars of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>, supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), and reinforces support for doctoral students as well as encourages our students to go on to the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course.

- WISE Program for Nano-Precision Medicine, Science, and Technology (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for WISE) [From FY2019 to FY2025]
- SPRING Project for Doctoral Talents in Creating Novel Values (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING) [From FY2024]
- BOOST Project for Trailblazing AI Crossover Doctoral Talents (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST) [From FY2024]

Each of these individual projects aims to nurture talented doctoral talents who can contribute to society, by reinforcing support such as financial support, enhancement of the environment for concentration on research, development of interdisciplinarity and internationality, career development after obtaining a doctoral degree, etc.

A doctoral student who applies for HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> and is approved will be supported by one of the projects including the grant for living expenses, research fund, travel subsidy, etc., and his/her research environment will be arranged to allow him/her to concentrate on research. The selected student is required to fulfill his/her obligations imposed by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> and the relevant project.

In addition, students who go on to or enrolled in the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course and pledge to further go on to the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course at our university will be selected as “preliminary awardees” and supported so as to reduce their financial burden during the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course.

HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> recruits ambitious students who are willing to pursue challenging and interdisciplinary research that aims to create new knowledge based on their high level of expertise and research capability and to lead to create novel values in society.

The details of each project are as follows.

### **[WISE Program for Nano-Precision Medicine, Science, and Technology (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for WISE)]**

**Note: New adoption was terminated after adoption for April 2025. Applications will not be accepted from October 2025 onwards.**

Project for 5-year integrated doctoral course (consisting of 2-year Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course and 3-year Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course) or 4-year Doctoral Course in medicine or pharmacy.

Those who have completed/acquired the required credits prescribed by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for WISE, in addition to the requirements for completion set by the division of the graduate school to which they belong, will be awarded a doctoral degree as stipulated in the Rules for Degrees of Kanazawa University, and completion of this project will be stated in the diploma.

[Title to be added to the diploma] Completion of WISE Program for Nano-Precision Medicine, Science, and Technology

Based on nanoscience, the strength of KU, HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for WISE aims to foster and nurture “nano-precision medicine professionals strong in technology” and “nano-precision science and technology professionals strong in medicine” who will play primary roles in creating innovative prevention, diagnosis, and treatment methods through understanding and control at the nano level.

### **[SPRING Project for Doctoral Talents in Creating Novel Values (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING)]**

This project is designed to foster innovative doctoral talents in KU co-educational environment through co-creation and exchanges of knowledge, who can develop their advanced expertise in diverse sectors and fields of society, and create novel values for the future. HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING supports excellent and aspiring doctoral students with a wide view that transcends their own research field, as well as attitude and capability to take on challenges to face social issues. These doctoral talents are expected to contribute to the progress of science and technology, and the creation of innovations both in Japan and around the world.

**[BOOST Project for Trailblazing AI Crossover Doctoral Talents (HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST)]**

**Note: HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST will NOT accept applications in October 2025. The next call for applications is scheduled for April 2026.**

This project is designed to foster doctoral talents who promote cutting-edge AI theoretical research and AI applied research in various research fields, backed by advanced AI knowledge and skills, and lead next-generation AI research and development. HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST places emphasis on having the qualifications to take on challenges in the AI academic field with an inquisitive spirit and conduct creative AI research. Therefore, this project supports not only doctoral students who are promoting theoretical or applied AI research and already have knowledge, skills, and research experience related to AI research, but also those with a strong desire to incorporate AI in their own research field and promote research.

The students selected for HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST are to catch up on rapidly evolving AI technology, acquire skills as AI engineers or data scientists, and utilize these skills to reach the level where they can carry out AI research and development that is most optimal for their own research. Besides, selected students are required to present AI research in academic conferences and academic journals.

Therefore, selected students of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST will be required to participate in "AI theoretical education", "AI lectures and practical training", "AI catch-up seminars", and "AI research exchanges" conducted by this project. Furthermore, in order to promote knowledge circulation and accelerate AI research at Kanazawa University, **HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST requests selected students and their supervisors to share the sample data, sample code, and know-how across Kanazawa University from their AI research when achieving research results in academic journals, in the case that this does not interfere with patent applications, preservation of security/privacy/confidentiality.**

**[Preliminary Selection of Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion (Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>)]**

**Note: Applications will only be open to Japanese students in accordance with the policy of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) from the call for applications in October 2025 onwards.**

This is a system that HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> selects students as preliminary awardees, who go on to or enrolled in the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course and who pledge to go on to the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course of Kanazawa University after finishing the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course and to play an active role after obtaining a doctoral degree. Preliminary awardees are exempted from admission fee (Limited to those who are selected at the time of enrollment) and tuition fee while enrolled in the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course, and allowed to participate in various programs within the research environment.

In order to be supported by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> in the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course, preliminary awardees are required to pass the selection screening of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> after they pass the entrance examination for the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course of the relevant division of the graduate school.

As a result of the selection screening, those who pass will be selected students of "HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING", and supported under the project. **However, HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING from FY2026 onwards is based on the assumption that the support project to doctoral students by Japanese government will continue. Therefore, this is subject to change.**

**At Kanazawa University, in principle, students who go on to the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / 4-year Doctoral Course are to complete the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course with Qualifying Examination (QE). Therefore, obviously, this principle will apply to the preliminary awardees who enroll in the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course, making a commitment to go on to the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course.**

## 2. Outline of the Support

### 1) Graduate school, course and division as the target for support

Project	Graduate school	Course	Division
SPRING Project for Doctoral Talents in Creating Novel Values (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for SPRING)	All graduate schools	Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course	All divisions
BOOST Project for Trailblazing AI Crossover Doctoral Talents (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for BOOST)	All graduate schools	Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course	All divisions
Preliminary Selection of Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion (Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> )	All graduate schools	Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course (those who go on to Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course)	All divisions (Japanese students only (Since adoption in October 2025))

### 2) Contents of financial support

The financial support provided by each project is shown in the following table.

(Apply to FY2025)

		SPRING Project for Doctoral Talents in Creating Novel Values (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for SPRING)	BOOST Project for Trailblazing AI Crossover Doctoral Talents (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for BOOST)	Preliminary Selection of Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion (Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> )
Support period (in principle)		Within standard period of Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course or of 4-year Doctoral Course	Within standard period of Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course or of 4-year Doctoral Course	Within standard period of Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course
Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course	Grant for living expenses per month			—
	RA salary			—
Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course	Grant for living expenses per month	180,000 yen	250,000 yen	
	Research fund per year	400,000 yen	900,000 yen	
Support for travel expenses, etc.		Support unique to the project available	Support unique to the project available	—
Exemption of Admission fee		—	—	Full exemption (Only for those enrolling in the year and month of adoption)
Exemption of Tuition fee		Half exemption	Half exemption	Full exemption

**Financial support is a special case for awardees and preliminary awardees of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>. Therefore, in the case where an awardee in HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> declines the award or preliminary selection, or in other case, support may be stopped. Besides, in this case, refund of the grant for living expenses, research funds and all other financial support provided by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>, payment of the exempted admission fee and the exempted tuition fee may be requested.**

**Please note that the contents of financial support may change depending on the situation of budget and system changes, etc..**

**For international students selected, if he/she cannot arrive in Japan by the date of adoption after the selection decision, the grant for living expenses for the month(s) that has/have the non-arrival day(s) will not be paid. In the case that international students arrive in Japan in the middle of a month, the payment of the grant for living expenses will start from the following month. Research funds can also be used from the month in which the payment of the grant for living expenses begins.**

**If an awardee of one of the projects in HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> that offers a half-tuition fee exemption applies for our university's own tuition fee exemption, and the result of application is a half-tuition fee exemption, only the half-tuition fee exemption through HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> will be available.**

### 3. Application Requirements

#### 1) Number of students to be selected

The number of students to be selected is described in the following table.

Applicants have to confirm their qualifications for application stipulated in 2) and choose the preferred project at the time of application. The project in which an applicant will be selected is decided by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> based on the selection result and the content of his/her research plan. Therefore, applicants should be aware that the applicant's wishes may not be met.

Note that only Japanese students are eligible for Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>, in accordance with the policy of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST).

SPRING Project for Doctoral Talents in Creating Novel Values (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for SPRING)	BOOST Project for Trailblazing AI Crossover Doctoral Talents (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for BOOST)	Preliminary Selection of Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion (Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> )
A few	—	A few ( <b>Japanese students only</b> )

#### 2) Qualifications for application

We welcome applicants who understand the purpose of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>, have a high motivation for research toward obtaining a doctoral degree within standard period, have an inquisitive spirit, and after obtaining a doctoral degree, wish to develop a profound academic expertise in various sectors of society, thus contribute to the creation of a better future society with. All of the following requirements must be met.

It should be noted that since the concept of Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> is to support those who pledge to play an active role after obtaining a doctoral degree, **those who are currently enrolled and enrolling in the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course but do not pledge to go on to the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course are not qualified.**

i) Those who are enrolled in the graduate school, course and division specified in the table below as of October 1, 2025.

			SPRING Project for Doctoral Talents in Creating Novel Values (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for SPRING)	BOOST Project for Trailblazing AI Crossover Doctoral Talents (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for BOOST)	Preliminary Selection of Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion (Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> )
Graduate School of Frontier Science Initiative	Master's Course	Division of Convergence Science	—	HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for BOOST will NOT accept applications in October 2025.	✓ (note)
	Master's Level Section of Integrated Course	Division of Transdisciplinary Sciences	—		✓ (note)
		Division of Nano Life Science			
	Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course	Division of Transdisciplinary Sciences	✓		—
		Division of Nano Life Science			
Graduate school of Human and Socio- Environmental Studies	Master's Level Section of Integrated Course	All divisions	—		✓ (note)
	Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course	Division of Human and Socio-Environmental Studies	✓		—
Graduate School of Natural Science and Technology	Master's Level Section of Integrated Course	All divisions	—		✓ (note)
	Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course	All divisions	✓		—
Graduate School of Medical Sciences	Master's Course	Division of Medical Science	—		✓ (note)
	Doctoral Course	Division of Medicine	✓		—
		Division of Pharmacy			
	Master's Level Section of Integrated Course	Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences	—		✓ (note)
		Division of Health Sciences			
	Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course	Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences	✓		—
		Division of Health Sciences			
Graduate School of Advanced Preventive Medical Sciences	Doctoral Course	Division of Advanced Preventive Medical Sciences	✓		—
Graduate school of Law	Master's Course	Division of Law and Politics	—		✓ (note)

Note: Only for those enrolled for less than 12 months. **Japanese students only.**

ii) Those who can affirm compliance with the matters stipulated in 7. Obligations of Awardees.

iii) Those who have obtained the recommendation of the supervisor (planned).

iv) Those who register on the dedicated system for “Cooperative Education through Research Internships” in the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course. Besides, actively view job descriptions (job contents, required knowledge and capabilities, etc.) presented by companies, and consider to apply. (Reference) <https://career-support.adm.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/internship/jobtype/>



- v) Those who register on "Japan Graduates Database (JGRAD)" operated by National Institute of Science and Technology Policy (NISTEP) in the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course, and register and update career information on JGRAD into the future if there is a change due to reassignment or job change, etc., even after graduation.

(Reference) [https://jgrad.nistep.go.jp/home\\_e.html](https://jgrad.nistep.go.jp/home_e.html)

- vi) Preliminary awardees who enroll in the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course are to complete the course with Qualifying Examination (QE) as a general rule and go on to the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course of Kanazawa University.
- vii) Those who meet the qualifications for application for DC1 and/or DC2 Research Fellowship for Young Scientists of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) must apply at least once. Those who did not succeed in the past must apply for DC2 in the next fiscal year if possible. DC1 and DC2 are awarded to outstanding doctoral students selected through rigorous screening process from among doctoral students nationwide, and will be advantageous for building their future career as doctoral talents. Therefore, if selected, it is strongly recommended that you concentrate on your research as DC1 or DC2.
- viii) Those who contribute to science and technology and the creation of innovation in Japan with doctoral degree in your career path after completing the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course of Kanazawa University. In the case of international students, they must pledge that they are to be employed at a Japanese company, university, research entity, etc. (including overseas subsidiary) or an internationally affiliated company in Japan for 3 years or more after completing the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course of Kanazawa University.

Note: if you cannot complete the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course or if this condition is not found to be met at the time of completion, the grant for living expenses, research funds and all other financial support provided by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> will have to be refunded, and payment of the exempted admission fee and the exempted tuition fee will have to be requested in principle.

- ix) Notwithstanding the above, those who fall under any of the following categories a)-c) are not qualified to apply.

a) Restrictions on double receipts

Those who receive the financial support from the following sources cannot receive support from HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>. Please note that the conditions differ between HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING, HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST and Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.

However, even if a potential applicant has an income from scholarships, etc., that fall under the restrictions on double receipts at the time of application, the application requirements may be met as of October 1, 2025 by declining the receipt of the said scholarships, etc., to enable him/her to apply for HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.

Further, note that if a potential applicant receives or will receive a scholarship as financial support and if the said scholarship does not allow double receipt of financial support, the rules and regulations of the said scholarship will apply. Therefore, it is the responsibility of an applicant to check with the said scholarship concerned whether there are any restrictions regarding double receipt of financial support prior to applying for HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>. When HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> selects such an applicant as a recipient of support of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>, he/she must take appropriate action such as declining the said scholarship.

Apart from requirements for each project, international students receiving support from the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarships in the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course are eligible to be accepted by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> when they go on to the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course of Kanazawa University only if the result of their application for extension under the

MEXT Scholarships have not been approved, in principle.

If you have any questions about restrictions on double receipts, inquire with 9. Others, 2) Inquires.

[HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING / HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST]

- Those who receive research incentives from the Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC) of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS);
- International students receiving support from the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarships;
- International students receiving support such as a scholarship from their home countries;
- Those who receive a scholarship, etc. (mainly for the purpose of support for living expenses);
- Adult students who fall under one of the followings:

Apart from the following income requirements, those who are judged by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> to be unable to fulfill the obligation to devote themselves to research as a selected student, or not to be in a situation where they can devote themselves to the career development and nurturing content by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> are not qualified.

- Those who earn stable income such as a salary and executive compensation at a sufficient level (2.4 million yen/year) as living expenses from the university or company to which they belong;
- Those who do not receive a sufficient amount of living expenses (based on 2.4 million yen/year) even though there is a system that allows them to receive such an allowance from the company, etc., to which they belong.

Note: HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> will not prevent applicants from receiving the Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) Graduate School Type 1 Scholarship, but those who are accepted as JASSO Graduate School Type 1 Scholarships in the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course from FY2023 onwards and who are selected for "HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for SPRING" and "HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST" will not be eligible for candidates of the "Exemption from JASSO Scholarship Repayment for Particularly Outstanding Achievement."

[Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>]

- Graduate School of Frontier Science Initiative Scholarship;

b) [Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> only] International students

c) Those who will be on leave of absence from October 1, 2025.

#### 4. Application Procedure

1) Application method

**Both the applicant and the supervisor (planned) must submit the prescribed Application documents listed in 2) within the Application period in accordance with the following.**

**No changes will be allowed to the Application documents once submitted. Even if there are any inaccuracies with the application, such as not having all the required documents, the application will be handled and reviewed in the same manner.**

• **Applicant:**

Please submit 2) Application documents "a" to "c" and "e" to "g" by sending an e-mail with a set of documents attached.

- The name of the file should be your full name.
- The title of your e-mail (subject line) should be "Application documents for HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>".
- All the documents should be combined into one file (PDF file).
  - \* Do not send separate document files to HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.
- Submit the application documents using the email address provided in Application document a, "Contact Information".

• **Supervisor (planned):**

Please submit 2) Application documents "d" in PDF file by sending an e-mail with the document attached.

- The name of the file should be "Recommendation letter for applicant's full name".
- The title of your e-mail (subject line) should be "HaKaSe+ Recommendation for applicant's full name".

2) Application documents

a. Application Form (Application Form A-1 or A-2);

b. Consent Form (Application Form B-1 or B-2);

Note: If you do not agree with all of the items stated in the consent form, your application will not be accepted.

c. Research Proposal Document (Application Form C-1 or C-2);

d. Recommendation letter of supervisor (planned);

e. Transcripts; (for all courses completed or currently enrolled in since bachelor's degree; However, if there are subjects that have been accredited as a result of transfer, etc., the transcripts of the previous university etc. must also be submitted)

f. Documents proving employment status, working conditions and income, only for those who earn income such as a salary and executive compensation from the company, etc., to which they belong, after October 2025;

g. Notification of acceptance (copy) or Entrance examination ticket (copy) for the relevant division of the graduate school.

Note 1: Only for those who are planning to enroll on October 1, 2025.

Note 2: For those who have completed/will complete Master's Level Section of Integrated Course of Kanazawa University and who have completed/will complete the course by Qualifying Examination (QE), please note that this is not a copy of the notification of passing the QE.

Note 3: Those who plan to apply to or take an entrance examination hereafter and have not yet completed printing his/her entrance examination ticket at the time of application have to clearly state this in the text of the email when submitting the application documents, and afterward submit the entrance examination ticket (copy) as soon as you print it.

3) Application period

July 17 (Thu), 2025 – Noon on August 4 (Mon), 2025 [Must arrive]

**Note: Only those applications submitted by both applicant and supervisor (planned) within the application period will be accepted. Further, HaKaSe+ will not respond to inquiries regarding the arrival of application documents or inquiries whether or not supervisor (planned) has submitted "d. Recommendation letter of supervisor (planned)".**

4) Submission destination

Educational and Student Affairs Division, Educational and Student Affairs Department

E-mail: jisedai[at]adm.kanazawa-u.ac.jp \*Please replace [at] with @.

Note: HaKaSe+ will not send a confirmation mail upon receiving the application.

**5. Selection Method**

Selection of HaKaSe+ will be performed by written examination and Interview.

The selection will be decided by comprehensive evaluation of the results of the written examination and Interview, etc.

Perspectives for Review are as follows.

- Is applicant's research plans and contents based on the purpose of HaKaSe+?
- Does an applicant have sufficient research achievements to be eligible for HaKaSe+?

- Broad perspective and awareness of social issues that transcends applicant's own research field
- Is an applicant recognized as having a high level of motivation for research and a positive attitude toward participation in HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> that is suitable for a HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> awardee?
- Does an applicant understand the purpose of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> and plan a career in order to contribute to the advancement of science and technology and the creation of innovation not only in Japan but around the world after obtaining doctoral degree?

In addition to the above, the following points will be added to those who would like to be assigned to HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST.

- Does an applicant have knowledges and skills as well as research experience, and research results related to AI research?
- Does an applicant have high-motivation and qualifications to carry out Next-generation AI research?

#### • **Written examination**

This will be reviewed based on the submitted application documents. It should be noted that in the written examination, for those enrolling on October 1, 2025, the results of the graduate school enrollment entrance examination for the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course or the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course' conducted by the relevant division of the graduate school will be referred to.

#### • **Interview**

Eligibility for Interview will be notified to the applicants via the e-mail at the addresses stated in the application documents by August 19 (Tue), 2025. If an applicant does not receive the notification by the due date, please contact the e-mail address given in 4. Application Procedure, 4) Submission destination.

For those eligible for Interview, Interview will be conducted based on the points described in the Research Proposal Document (Application Form C-1 or C-2). Interview will be conducted as follows. Therefore, applicants are to prepare to strictly adhere to the submission deadline of presentation data.

- Interview consists of a presentation (no more than 10 minutes [strictly enforced, at least 8 minutes]) and a question-and-answer session for approximately 10 minutes. The languages to be used are Japanese or English.
- Applicants will be required to use slide data for presentation. Please make sure that your presentation is easy to understand for researchers with different specialties and research fields.
- Applicants who have received a notification of being eligible for Interview are required to submit presentation data (both PowerPoint file and PDF file) by Noon on August 20 (Wed), 2025 [Must arrive]. If the file size is large, submit it using file transmission services etc. on your own responsibility. **If an applicant does not submit them by the deadline, the applicant will be deemed to have declined Interview.** Details of Interview will be notified to the subjects.
- Interview will be conducted in late August 2025 (including Saturdays and Sundays). Interview date and time for each applicant will be specified by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.

Note: Interview may be conducted using a Web communication tool when Kanazawa University determines it necessary, e.g. from a crisis management perspective.

### **6. Announcement of the Selection Result and Date of Adoption**

The result of the selection will be notified to the applicants via the e-mail at the addresses stated in the application documents by the end of September, 2025.

Date of Adoption of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> will be October 1, 2025.

## 7. Obligations of Awardees

Awardees are obliged to fulfil the following items. If HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> finds that they have failed to fulfil obligations of awardees, or if HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> finds that it is not appropriate to continue the support based on the report referred to in 4), HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> will take action such as suspending the support, cancelling the award or demanding the refund of the financial support.

- 1) Awardees are to concentrate on their study and research, present research achievements in academic conferences and academic journals, and complete doctoral course of Kanazawa University within standard period of course, understanding the principle of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> and being fully aware that they will be supported by public funds.
- 2) Awardees are to participate in programs for improving research capability and career development conducted by Kanazawa University sponsored or co-sponsored with HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> and to respond to participant surveys and follow-up. The selection of the program to participate and the number of times of participation must meet the requirements indicated separately by HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.
- 3) For awardees of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST, 2) is recommendation. However, awardees of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for BOOST are to participate in "AI theoretical education", "AI lectures and practical training", "AI catch-up seminars", and "AI research exchanges" conducted by this project to enhance the knowledge and skills to promote research and development of AI, and are required to present AI research in academic conferences and academic journals during the support period.
- 4) Awardees are to report the progress and the results of the research every fiscal year in the prescribed format.
- 5) Awardees are to cooperate with various surveys, questionnaires, and follow-ups for supporting doctoral talents conducted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) and Kanazawa University, not only while enrolled at Kanazawa University but also after graduation.
- 6) Awardees are to acknowledge the support, when they publish the research results obtained thanks to the support of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.
- 7) Awardees are to implement tax procedures related to the grant for living expenses and RA salaries. **Under the Income Tax Act, a grant (such as a fellowship) for living expenses is taxable as "miscellaneous income" and a final tax return is required. If the awardee is dependent on a guardian (his/her parent, for example), etc., the treatment of dependent in health insurance, dependent allowance, etc. may change, so he/she should take appropriate measures himself/herself (inquiries to the appropriate person at the parent's or guardian's workplace may be necessary).**
- 8) In addition, awardees are to comply with various other matters stipulated by the relevant project.

## 8. Personal Information

- All personal information that HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> obtains during the selection process, adoption procedures, and post-adoption activities will be used for tasks related to selection process and overall operations of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>. In these processes, HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> may outsource tasks involving the handling of retained personal information to outside parties in accordance with Kanazawa University's Personal Information Management Regulations within the scope necessary for HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> to carry out its tasks.
- Personal information such as examination results used for the selection will be used for aggregation and analysis of selection results and for research on the student selection method to the extent that individuals are not identified.
- When selecting applicants for HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>, the materials submitted for the entrance examination at the graduate school will be used.
- The names and affiliations of the students selected may be announced on the websites and in printed materials such as various reports.
- Photographs of classes, events, etc., may be published in printed materials such as various reports and on websites as a record of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> activities.

## 9. Others

### 1) Application for exemption from admission fee (deferral of payment) and tuition fee

For awardees, admission fee exemption and tuition fee exemption will be offered as stipulated in 2. Outline of the Support, 2) Contents of financial support. Therefore, applicants should follow the procedure as specified in the following table according to the project for which each applicant is eligible to apply based on the description in 3. Application Requirements, 2) Qualifications for application, i).

[Required procedures according to the project for which each applicant is eligible to apply]

	Preliminary Selection of Kanazawa University Strategic Project for Development of Doctoral Students and Research Promotion (Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> )	SPRING Project for Doctoral Talents in Creating Novel Values (HaKaSe <sup>+</sup> for SPRING)
Admission fee (for those who plan to enroll on October 1, 2025) *Excluding those who go on to the Doctoral Level Section of Integrated Course / Doctoral Course after completing the Master's Level Section of Integrated Course / Master's Course of Kanazawa University in September, 2025.	<b><u>Be sure to follow the procedure for exemption from admission fee (deferral of payment) and do not pay the admission fee until the selection result is disclosed.</u></b> <u>Those who have applied for exemption from admission fee (deferral of payment) must notify the withdrawal as soon as they are notified that they are successfully selected for Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.</u>	Applicants are not prevented from applying for exemption from admission fee (deferral of payment).
Tuition fee (for those who plan to enroll on October 1, 2025 and those who are currently enrolled at Kanazawa University)	Applicants are not prevented from applying for exemption from tuition fee. <u>Those who have applied for exemption from tuition fee must notify the withdrawal as soon as they are notified that they are successfully selected for Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>.</u>	Applicants are not prevented from applying for exemption from tuition fee.

[Application method]

Those who wish to be eligible for the exemption from admission fee (deferral of payment) and tuition fee regardless of the selection result of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> should confirm the following Kanazawa University website and complete the application procedures in accordance with the application guidelines.

However, applicants who are target of Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> will be eligible for the full exemption from admission fee and tuition fee if they are successfully selected for Preliminary Selection of HaKaSe<sup>+</sup>. Therefore, when they apply to the exemption from admission fee (deferral of payment) and tuition fee, they only need to submit 'Applicant Form' (Forms 1-1 and 1-2) stating "Applied for HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> for October 2025" at the top of the form.

- Admission fee exemption/admission fee payment deferral webpage  
[https://www.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/students/economic/exemption\\_grace](https://www.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/students/economic/exemption_grace)
- Tuition fee exemption webpage  
[https://www.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/students/economic/tuition\\_waiver/graduate\\_students](https://www.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/students/economic/tuition_waiver/graduate_students)

For awardees, the Educational and Student Affairs Division will proceed with procedures for admission fee exemption and tuition fee exemption stipulated in 2. Outline of the Support, 2) Contents of financial support. If the applicant is not selected, the prescribed admission fee or tuition fee will be collected during the period specified by Kanazawa University. However, for those applying for the university's own exemption system of admission fee/tuition fee, these fees will be collected based on the screening results.

## 2) Inquires

Educational and Student Affairs Division, Educational and Student Affairs Department

2nd floor of the Administration Office, Kanazawa University Kakuma Campus

Postal Code: 920-1192

Kakuma-machi, Kanazawa City, Ishikawa Prefecture, Japan

E-mail: jisedai[at]adm.kanazawa-u.ac.jp      \*Please replace [at] with @.

Website: <https://phd.w3.kanazawa-u.ac.jp/en/>

Note: HaKaSe<sup>+</sup> will not respond to individual inquiries regarding receiving the application or the selection result, etc..

## 3) Others

- Application documents will not be returned.
- If any of the contents of the submitted documents is revealed to be false, the award may be canceled even after the selection is finalized. In such a case, a full refund of the financial support provided and payment of the exempted admission fee and the exempted tuition fee will be imposed.
- Correspondence to the applicant is done via e-mail at the address stated in the application documents. Therefore, the e-mail address must be an address that can reliably receive e-mails from Kanazawa University (kanazawa-u.ac.jp). Mobile phone addresses are not accepted since attachments may be sent.