

AY2026

Q-PIT Support Program
for Doctoral Students

Application Guidelines



June 2026

1. Purpose

Kyushu University established the Platform of Inter-/Transdisciplinary Energy Research (Q-PIT) in October 2016 to harness our outstanding achievements in the field of energy, contribute to solving the increasingly serious global energy and environmental issues, and realize a sustainable society.

In November 2021, Kyushu University was selected as a Designated National University Corporation by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT). Among priority initiatives is driving social change with leveraging the university's strength and characteristics for solving social issues, where one of the entry points is "decarbonization." Q-PIT is expected to play a role in driving social change and innovation as a platform of "integrative knowledge" that fuses different academic disciplines, and conducts advanced cross-disciplinary research and human resource development.

As a gateway to success, this program targets to identify and support doctoral students who will play major roles in future energy research in society.

2. Details of Support

Projects will be accepted in the following five research areas in the doctoral course:

Area 1: Energy Technology

Area 2: Energy Systems and Management

Area 3: Environmental Energy Issues

Area 4: Energy Economy, Society, and Policy

Area 5: Other Energy Issues

* This support is aimed at research projects in all energy-related fields, from humanities and social sciences to natural sciences. We recommend that you keep an open mind when applying, and refer to the "List of academic fields and keywords" in the appendix.

* Please describe the contents of your research plan clearly and avoid complex terms, so that it can be understood by reviewers outside your specific field.

[Eligibility and Requirements]

* Support is available to Doctoral students, as well as Master's students expected to join doctoral programs.

* Those who have been previously supported by this Doctoral Support program twice, are not eligible to apply for a third time.

* Those who are enrolled in the school until March 31st, 2027 (or longer).

[Number of Awards and Amount of Support]

Gold Award: ~1 (500,000 yen)

Silver Award: ~2 (400,000 yen)

Bronze Award: ~3 (300,000 yen)

Encouragement Award: ~14 (200,000 yen)

[Expenses for Research and Further Education]

According to the rank of each award, expenses for research and further education will be offered to the laboratories to which the students who receive the award belong.

Please note that there are no restrictions on the use of research and education incentives, but efforts must be made to properly execute the expenses under the supervision of the affiliated laboratory.

* Please note that there is a limit to external support funds for research fellowships for young scientists at the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. Any amount of support in this area will be within that limit.

[Support Period] April 1st, 2026 – March 31st, 2027.

3. Selection Procedure, Number of Adopted Research Projects and Date of Allocation

(1) The selection process involves reviewing the applications and deciding which proposals are candidates for

adoption.

- (2) The number of adopted projects may be adjusted according to the budget.
- (3) In the event of a tie between applicants who have never been selected and applicants who have been selected in the past, priority will be given to applicants who have never been selected.
- (4) Support expenses for the adopted research projects are allocated as of April 1st, 2025.

4. Application Procedures

(1) Pre-entry

Pre-entry must be required before you apply.

Access the URL for the entry form, enter the required information, and complete the form.

[Entry period] Start of public call for applications - **Friday, 17 July, 23:59**

[Entry URL] <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/3nmSKyMHYZ>

(2) How to Submit

Get the application form from the following URL and prepare the necessary documents.

https://archive.iii.kyushu-u.ac.jp/public/iPZ4wofIdj9GpYSLrvnz2eStiq_FVWhMcNffWHHpY97

[Submission period] Start of public call for applications – **Friday, 24 July, 23:59**

[Application documents] **(FORM1) Research Application Overview, (FORM2) Application Form**

[Application submission address] The address is given in the email confirming receipt at pre-entry.

All application materials should be converted to PDF and submitted.

The file name should be “FORM X_Affiliation_name”.

(e.g. FORM 1_Faculty of Economics_Taro Kyudai)

(3) Contact Information (Support Office)

IQ Office Research Support and Public Relations Group

e-mail: iq-kenkyu@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp

5. Requirements after adoption

(1) Public Relations

Awardees must be active in providing publicity for this program, for instance by openly specifying that the research has received support under this program in presentations, posters, and academic publications. The following is an example of an Acknowledgment.

This work was supported by Kyushu University Q-PIT Support Program for Doctoral Students.

(2) Research presentations

Awardees must actively cooperate with the efforts of Kyushu University (such as participating in exhibitions, seminars and symposiums) to make the research findings publicly available. When the project is adopted, awardees must give poster presentations in events hosted by Q-PIT, such as Energy Week.

(3) Application for JSPS Program

Doctoral Student awardees who are eligible to apply must apply for the research fellowship for young scientists of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science in the year of the award, or the following year.

6. Report on Research Achievements

For adopted research proposals, at the end of each academic year, recipient researchers must report results of their research by completing and submitting the (FORM3) Report of Achievements by the due date (to be announced by Q-PIT). In addition, Expenses Report shall also be submitted by the administrative staff of the applicant's department.

7. Other Items

Patentable inventions made in the course of research conducted with support from this program will be handled in accordance with Kyushu University Intellectual Property Handling Rules (Kyushu University Rules No. 93, AY 2004).

For more information, refer to the website of the Academic Research and Industrial Collaboration Management Office: <https://airimaq.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/teacher/invention.php>

<Appendix>

List of suggested academic fields and keywords of specialized fields pertinent to research areas (1-5)

Area 1: Energy Technology

- Relevant Fields: Science, Engineering, Mathematics, Chemistry, Materials Science
- Specialized Keywords: Hydrogen Production, Hydrogen Storage, Water Electrolysis, Fuel Cells, Batteries, Energy Storage Materials, Energy Conversion Materials, Photovoltaics / Solar Materials

Area 2: Energy Systems and Management

- Relevant Fields: Information Technology, Systems Engineering, Control Engineering, Engineering Management, Process System Engineering, Energy System Engineering, Chemical System Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering; Renewable Energy Utilization Systems; Hybrid Renewable Energy Systems
- Specialized Keywords: Data Analysis, Modeling, System Integration, Energy Storage Systems, Local Energy Systems, Low-carbon Society, Techno-Economic Assessment

Area 3: Environmental Energy Issues

- Relevant Fields: Agricultural Sciences, Environmental Science,
- Specialized Keywords: Generation of Bio-Derived Energy, Measures Against Global Warming

Area 4: Energy Economy, Society, and Policy

- Relevant Fields: Energy Economics, Resource Economics, Environmental Economics, Sociology, Energy Policy
- Specialized Keywords: Smart Farm, Energy Issues in Developing Countries, Energy-Saving, Energy Creation, and Energy Storage Technologies, Distributed Energy Society

Area 5: Other Energy Issues

- Other Fields