

October 2026 Enrollment

Application Procedures for International student
Doctoral course
Graduate School of Dentistry, the University of Osaka



**Graduate School of Dentistry
The University of Osaka**

The Graduate School of Dentistry at the University of Osaka seeks independent, self-motivated students who strive to acquire specialized expertise, and who seek to obtain the ability to make sound decisions as members of society, imaginative design skills that are applicable to collaborative work, and respect for other cultures as global citizens.

Admission Policy

In order to develop human resource as outlined in the Education Objectives, the University of Osaka admits students who acquired sufficient academic skills, clearly demonstrate basic academic knowledge, as well as sufficient specialty knowledge, demonstrate an independent desire to learn and strong motivation to identify problems and seek solutions on their own.

To identify such students, various selection methods are used.

Desired Applicants

Following the admission policy of the University of Osaka, the Graduate School of Dentistry accepts those with inquisitive minds regarding the advanced sciences in the oral and maxillofacial fields, ranging from fundamental life science research to the development of cutting-edge diagnostic and treatment techniques, who are eager to become the next-generation leaders in dental research and clinical dentistry, and who possess the following qualities.

- (1) Love dentistry and life science, and maintain a serious attitude and sense of mission towards clinical dentistry
- (2) Possess the acumen and perseverance necessary to acquire the latest knowledge and learn cutting-edge techniques
- (3) Are filled with motivation and curiosity, and have an expansive imagination
- (4) Are highly independent with a strong sense of purpose and desire for self-improvement
- (5) Actively seek to communicate on a global level
- (6) Explore career paths to shape their own future

Basic policy regarding the selection

With the aim of accepting the resource described above and securing a diverse array of students, we shall conduct a special selection process in entrance examination for international students, in order to secure global diversity in terms of a learning environment for our students.

Relationship between actual selection method and qualities and abilities

In the special selection process for international students, the evaluation will place particular emphasis on 1 and 2. The candidate's ability in relation to 5 will be assessed by the written examination (foreign language), and the ability in relation to (1), (2), (3), (4), and (6) will be assessed according to the personal statement and interview.

Curriculum Policy

In line with the Curriculum Policies of the University of Osaka, the Graduate School of Dentistry gives research guidance to students under an educational program that is designed to help them acquire specialized skills, comprehensive viewpoints, multifaceted thinking, and an international mindset, and support them in preparing for various future career paths.

< Principles of Curriculum Design >

The curriculum of the Graduate School of Dentistry consists of: basic and special graduate lectures to acquire broad-based deep knowledge; a disease-specific problem-based learning (PBL)-style dentistry education program to acquire advanced design prowess and problem-solving skills; Academic Major education subjects in core research fields to acquire outstanding academic expertise; and special subjects to acquire advanced broad-based knowledge and deep critical thinking, and an international mindset. The basic graduate lectures and special subjects and some of the special graduate lectures are taught in English to help students develop communication skills and global perspectives. Students are strongly recommended to study: Graduate Transdisciplinary subjects and International exchange subjects offered by other organizations of the University of Osaka, and subjects offered under the Graduate Minor Program and Graduate Program for Advanced Interdisciplinary Studies to acquire advanced broad-based knowledge, deep critical thinking and an

international mindset; and international exchange subjects to develop international competency by learning about world-class research and interacting with foreign researchers through participation and presentation at international academic meetings.

< Contents and Methods of Education >

Basic graduate lectures are designed to help students acquire the basic knowledge necessary for specialized study of oral science. These lectures are taught in English, and thus double as Global Literacy education subjects.

Special graduate lectures deal with various research themes, taught by renowned researchers, both Japanese and foreign. The disease-specific PBL-style dentistry education program is designed to study various interdisciplinary themes relating to oral science.

Academic Major education subjects in respective core research fields consist of lectures, seminars, practical training sessions, and laboratory work.

Special subjects are offered in a seminar style and designed to enhance the ability to make presentations on themes relating to life sciences in English.

< Academic Performance Evaluation Method >

The academic performance of students in lecture-based subjects is evaluated by assessing the level of achievement of learning goals specified in the syllabus based on reports or written examinations.

The academic performance of students in subjects offered under the disease-specific PBL-style dentistry education program is evaluated by assessing the level of achievement of learning goals specified in the syllabus based on reports, written examinations or research presentations.

The academic performance of students in seminar-, practical-training- and laboratory-work-based subjects is evaluated by assessing the level of achievement of learning goals specified in the syllabus based on reports, or research presentations.

The doctoral thesis is prepared under research guidance and evaluated for sufficient academic value.

The curriculum of the Graduate School of Dentistry is designed to guide students to study a wide range of disciplines centering on the core research field and help them develop the ability to address various problems that cannot be solved through the conventional life-science-based approach, from the perspective of oral science, and to acquire design prowess backed by cutting-edge advanced specialized knowledge, advanced broad-based knowledge and deep critical thinking, and an international mindset.

Diploma Policy

Under the Diploma Policies of the University of Osaka, the Graduate School of Dentistry confers a Doctoral Degree in Philosophy in Dental Science on individuals specialized in the life science field relevant to oral science, subject to meeting the following objectives.

Cutting-edge, advanced specialized knowledge and outstanding academic expertise

Acquire cutting-edge, advanced specialized knowledge and skills in dental medicine and dental healthcare, and develop the ability to apply such knowledge and skills for problem-solving.

Develop the ability to conduct original research in broader fields based on knowledge in oral science and deepen such research.

Advanced broad-based knowledge and deep critical thinking

Acquire broad-based deep knowledge and develop the ability to think from a comprehensive viewpoint and conduct a multi-angle evaluation.

A sophisticated international mindset

Develop the ability to bring up global problems in the field of dental medicine and dental healthcare and play a leading role in solving such problems internationally.

Acquire communication skills and global perspectives to play a leading role internationally.

Advanced design prowess

Develop the ability to devise approaches to solutions to problems by combining various disciplines based on cutting-edge, advanced specialized knowledge, advanced broad-based knowledge and deep critical thinking, and an international mindset.

Individual learning goals

Develop the ability to bring up various problems in life sciences from a distinctive perspective of oral science and work in collaboration with specialists in other fields for problem-solving.

The Graduate School of Dentistry confers a Doctoral Degree in Philosophy in Dental Science on individuals who have: acquired design prowess backed by cutting-edge, advanced specialized knowledge, advanced broad-based knowledge and deep critical thinking, and an international mindset; and developed the ability to address various problems that cannot be solved through the conventional life-science-based approach, from the perspective of oral science

1. Course, Research Area and Number of Admission

Course

Course for Oral Science

Research Area (Department)

[Division of Oral Biology and Biomaterials Science]

Tissue and Developmental Biology (Department of Tissue and Developmental Biology)

Morphological Oral and Brain Science (Department of Systematic Anatomy and Neurobiology)

Oral Physiology (Department of Oral Physiology)

Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry (Department of Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry)

Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology (Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology)

Molecular and Cellular Microbiology (Department of Microbiology)

Neuropharmacology (Department of Pharmacology)

Biomaterials Science (Department of Dental Biomaterials)

[Division of Oral Infection Control]

Preventive Dentistry (Department of Preventive Dentistry)

Restorative Dentistry and Endodontology (Department of Restorative Dentistry and Endodontology)

Periodontology (Department of Periodontology and Regenerative Dentistry)

[Division of Oral Reconstruction and Comprehensive Dentistry]

Regenerative Prosthodontics (Department of Regenerative Prosthodontics)

Removable Prosthodontics, Implantology and Gerodontology (Department of Removable Prosthodontics and Gerodontology)

Interdisciplinary Dentistry (Department of Interdisciplinary Dentistry)

[Division of Oral Surgery]

Surgery for Oral and Maxillofacial Diseases (Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery)

Oral and Maxillofacial Oncology (Department of Oral & Maxillofacial Oncology and Surgery)

Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology (Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology)

Dental Anesthesiology (Department of Dental Anesthesiology)

[Division of Growth and Development Dentistry]

Pediatric Dentistry (Department of Pediatric Dentistry)

Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics (Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics)

Special Needs Dentistry (Department of Special Needs Dentistry)

Oral-Facial Disorders and Therapeutics (Department of Rehabilitation for Orofacial Disorders)

[Center for Frontier Oral Science]

Frontier Biology (Department of Oral Cellular Biology)

[Research Unit]

Bioinformatics (Bioinformatics Research Unit)

System Disease Model Biology (Genome Editing Research and Development Unit)

Intelligent Informatics (AI Research Unit)

[Osaka Women's and Children's Hospital]

Genetics for Craniofacial Development

The number of students to be admitted

A few students per admission.

Please note:

For detailed information on the research carried out in each department, please visit the “Facilities of Graduate School of Dentistry” page on the University of Osaka Graduate School of Dentistry website.

<https://global.dent.osaka-u.ac.jp/academics/graduate-school-of-dentistry/>

2. Application Eligibility

Individuals who do not hold Japanese citizenship and would hold a College Student resident status at the time of enrollment, and whose educational background matches one of the following.

- (1) Individuals who expect to complete 18 years of schooling in a country other than Japan (The final courses should be either of medicine, dentistry, veterinary sciences, or pharmaceutical sciences [limited to course terms of six years, as will apply hereinafter]) September 30th of 2026. However, if the final six years are in medicine, dentistry, veterinary sciences, or pharmaceutical sciences, less than 18 years is acceptable.
- (2) Individuals who have completed, or expect to complete by September 30th of 2026, 18 years of schooling in a country other than Japan through distance learning programs while residing in Japan.
- (3) Individuals who have completed a Master’s Degree or an equivalent degree (including long-distance education degrees, offered by foreign institutes, which have been completed in Japan), or who expect to complete their degree by September 30th, 2026 with a 5-year study term (The final course should be either of medicine, dentistry, veterinary sciences, or pharmaceutical sciences) at a university or educational institute in a country other than Japan (limited to institutes at which all of the educational research activities are approved by the institutes’ respective governments or agencies, or separately designated by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology).
- (4) Individuals who, after 16 years of schooling in a country other than Japan, have conducted research at a university or other research institute for 2 years or more, and have been recognized by the Graduate School of Dentistry as having a scholastic competence equal to or higher than those who have graduated from a university program in dentistry or medicine or a 6-year program in pharmaceutical sciences or veterinary science (hereinafter referred to as “a program in dentistry, medicine, pharmaceutical sciences, or veterinary science”).
- (5) Individuals who have completed, or expect to complete by September 30th of 2026, 16 years of schooling in a country other than Japan (must include a program in dentistry, medicine, pharmaceutical sciences, or veterinary science); or who have completed, or expect to complete by September 30th of 2026, 16 years of schooling in a country other than Japan through distance learning programs while residing in Japan (must include a program in dentistry, medicine, pharmaceutical sciences, or veterinary science); or who have completed, or expect to complete by September 30th of 2026, the program of a university based in a country other than Japan (must be accredited by the respective country as a program at the end of which graduates will have received 16 years of schooling, and must include a program in dentistry, medicine, pharmaceutical sciences, or veterinary science) at an educational facility in Japan that has been recognized by the respective country’s educational system as providing an accredited program and is designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan as a “location in Japan of a foreign university”; and who have been recognized by the Graduate School of Dentistry as having completed a certain number of academic credits with exceptional grades.

Please note:

- Foreign Students (※) who graduated from a Japanese university cannot apply through the International Admission. Please consider applying through the Domestic Admission or Nontraditional Admission.

※Foreign Students : Those who are residing under the status of “College Student” as defined in the “Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act” (including those who are expected to obtain the status by October 2026).

3. Qualifying Review

Individuals applying under qualification conditions 4 or 5 must undergo a prequalification review. These individuals must submit the required documents outlined below to the Educational Affairs Section of the Graduate School of Dentistry prior to the deadline.

To be Submitted	Who needs to submit	Note
Prequalification Admission Form	All Pre-examination Applicants	Maybe downloaded from https://global.dent.osaka-u.ac.jp/admission-aid/admissions-for-graduate-school-of-dentistry/page-2629/ under Application Forms. May be written in Japanese or English.
Academic Transcript	All Pre-examination Applicants	Issued by the president of all universities attended
Certificate of Graduation (expected)	All Pre-examination Applicants	
Transcript of Master’s Degree Certificate of Completion (expected) of a Graduate Degree	If applicable	Issued by the president of all universities attended.
Statement of Purpose	All Pre-examination Applicants	https://global.dent.osaka-u.ac.jp/admission-aid/admissions-for-graduate-school-of-dentistry/page-2629/ under Application Forms. In the prescribed form, state the reason for application and describe the desired research upon entering the graduate school. Must be written in Japanese or English
Letter of Recommendation	All Pre-examination Applicants	From the dean or supervisor (professor). May be written in Japanese or English.

1) Application Period

May 11th – May 13th, 2026

2) Announcement of Qualifying Review Results

May 22th, 2026

3) The application materials of those who have passed the qualifying review will subsequently be accepted for review for admission. There is no need to resubmit any of the documents already submitted for the qualifying review.

4. Application Process

On the application, please select the area in which you would conduct your graduate thesis research, from the field listed in the table in "1. Course, Research Area and Number of Admission". Prior to the application,

each applicant must consult with and obtain consent from the prospective thesis and research advisor (professor) from the department.

(1) Application Period

June 1st - June 3rd, 2026

(2) Submission Methods

Place the application materials (listed in Section 5) inside a 33 cm x 25 cm envelope and send by registered mail or hand deliver.

Educational Affairs Section,
the University of Osaka Graduate School of Dentistry
1-8 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871 JAPAN

- If using registered mail, only the application materials that have been delivered during the application period will be accepted.
- If hand delivering, application materials will be accepted each day during the application period (excluding weekends and holidays) from 9:00 to 12:00 and from 13:00 to 16:00.

5. Application Materials

To be Submitted	Who needs to submit	Note
Application Form	All applicants	Maybe downloaded from https://global.dent.osaka-u.ac.jp/admission-aid/admissions-for-graduate-school-of-dentistry/page-2629/ under Application Forms. May be written in Japanese or English.
Examination Slip /Photo Sheet	All applicants	https://global.dent.osaka-u.ac.jp/admission-aid/admissions-for-graduate-school-of-dentistry/page-2629/ under Application Forms.
Academic Transcript	All applicants	Issued by the president of all universities attended.
Certificate of Graduation (expected)	All applicants	Issued by the president of all universities attended.
Transcript of Master's Degree Certificate of Completion (expected) of a Graduate Degree	Applicable applicants	Issued by the president of all universities attended.
Statement of Purpose	If applicable	https://global.dent.osaka-u.ac.jp/admission-aid/admissions-for-graduate-school-of-dentistry/page-2629/ under Application Forms. Please describe your ambition and the research aims/goals while in the graduate school. May be written in Japanese or English

Copy of Certificate of Residency	Resident aliens of Japan	Must be issued by the head of the relevant municipality and must indicate the status of residence and the period of stay. * Not required for members of the household other than the applicant
Copy of passport	Applicants residing outside Japan	
Documents Indicating Applicant's Japanese or English Language Skills	If desired/voluntary	Official Certificate of the Examination for Japanese University Admission for International Students, TOEIC, TOEFL or IELTS (*)
Letter of Recommendation	All applicants	From the dean or the supervisor (professor), (May be written in Japanese or English)
Receipt of Application Fee Payment	All applicants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The payment must be made using the Application Fee Payment System within the specified period. <li style="margin-left: 20px;">○ Application Fee Payment Period May 18th 9:00 - June 3rd 15:00, 2026 (Application Fees of 30,000 yen) • Once the payment is completed, download the Receipt of Application Fee Payment from the Application Fee Payment System and please print it out and enclose. • For the details on how to pay the application fee by the Application Fee Payment System, please refer to the URL below . https://global.dent.osaka-u.ac.jp/admission-aid/admissions-for-graduate-school-of-dentistry/page-2629/ It is also mentioned at the end of the Application Procedures for International Student. <li style="margin-left: 20px;">○ the Application Fee Payment System http://e-apply.jp/n/osaka-u-payment • System operation fee will be charged separately. • Once the application materials are received, the application fee may not be reimbursed under any circumstance. • Not required for Japanese Government (MEXT)-financed international students

Address Label	All applicants	https://global.dent.osaka-u.ac.jp/admission-aid/admissions-for-graduate-school-of-dentistry/page-2629/ under Application Forms.
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Note1: Official certificate of TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS

The valid certificate should be the one issued within two years before the last day of the application period. Please submit one of the followings.

- ① TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) : Test Taker Score Report or Examinee Score Report (Copy allowed)
 - ※ TOEFL-ITP is not acceptable.
- ② TOEIC (Test of English for International Communication) : Official Score Certificate
 - ※ TOEIC-IP is not acceptable.
- ③ IELTS (International English Language Testing System, Academic Module) : Test Report Form
 - ※ IELTS (General Training Module) is not applicable.

6. Delivery of Examination Slip

The examination slip will be sent on June 10th. Please contact the graduate school if you do not receive it by June 15th.

7. Entrance Examination

Successful applicants are selected on the basis of the materials submitted, examination results, the interview, and the evaluation by the prospective supervisors.

Examination	Examination Structure	Schedule	Note
June 20th, 2026	Written examination : English(*)	13:00 –15:00	You may bring one paper dictionary to the examination (no electronic dictionaries allowed).
	Interview	The time and location will be announced when the examination slips are sent out.	

***:** If the submitted result of TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS meets the certain score, you may be exempted from the written examination for the foreign language/English. In this case, the notification of the exemption will be sent together with an examination slip.

***:** Applicants to the double degree program may be exempted from the written English examination (English) based on the result of the document screening.

8. Announcement of Successful Candidates

The examination numbers of the successful applicants will be posted as below, and the results will be sent out by mail as well.

Please note that no telephone inquiries about the result are accepted.

Date	Place
July 17th, 2026 10:00	The entrance of Graduate School of Dentistry

***:** The above schedule is subject to change without notice.

9. Enrollment Fee and Tuition Fee

Enrollment fee 282,000JPY (as of March 2026)

Tuition fee 267,900JPY/semester (535,800JPY/year)

*:

1. The tuition fee after enrollment must be paid by direct debit (the fee will be debited from a specified bank account).
2. If the enrollment and tuition fees are revised, the new fees will be applied at the time of revision.
3. The tuition fee may change.
4. Japanese Government Scholarship students are exempt from paying the entrance and tuition fees.

10. Enrollment Fee and Tuition Fee Waivers

An individual encountering difficulty in the payment of the tuition fee for economic reasons, and who also has achieved the minimum academic standard, may receive a full or half waiver of the enrollment and tuition fees based on the graduate school's budget.

Please visit: <https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/campus/tuition/remission>

11. Handling of the Personal Information

(1) Names, addresses, and other personal information will be used only for the entrance examination purposes (e.g. in the publication of the list of successful applicants, and in the admission procedures.

Of the students admitted to the University of Osaka, personal information will also be used for academic-related matters (e.g. in keeping academic and registration records), for student support (e.g. health care management, school fee exemptions, applications for scholarships, or career support), and for school fee management.

(2) The information obtained from the entrance examination may be used for statistical purposes of incoming students or for a future reference on admission process. Of the students entering the University of Osaka, personal information may be used as a reference for selecting students' enrollment in further academic program.

(3) To process the admission, personal data obtained from the entrance examination process may be delegated to a third party with a contract to protect the information of individuals.

12. Disclosure of Entrance Examination Information

An individual score report will be disclosed to the applicant in person (may not be a proxy for the applicant) if the applicant requests the total scores of the written examination and the interview.

13. Precautions

(1) Prior to submitting the application, the applicant must contact a faculty member in the research area of interest and have a thorough discussion of potential research projects and other relevant graduate school matters.

(2) If the application documents contain any falsifications, admission may be revoked even after enrollment.

(3) Incomplete or flawed applications will not be accepted.

Changes are not allowed to the application for admission after submission.

(4) Application fee will not be returned after application submission, except for the following circumstances:

- ① An applicant applied but did not have the appropriate application qualifications.
- ② Application arrived after the deadline and the application was not accepted.
- ③ There was a mistake in the application and the application was not accepted.
- ④ Application fee was paid, but the individual did not submit the application.

⑤ Application fee was paid incorrectly and double payments were made.

*If 4 or 5 mentioned above applies, please request a reimbursement.

(5) Reimbursement Requests

Write a reimbursement request (free format) containing reasons for the request and the requester's name (along with the Japanese pronunciation in katakana), current address, phone number and email as soon as possible to the address in the following section together with the Receipt of Application Fee Payment

(6) We do not make any accommodation arrangements (e.g. booking hotels, train tickets) for an applicant arriving on the examination day.

(7) For disabled individuals requesting special consideration for examinations and trips, please make requests to below by April 10th, 2026.

(8) In cases of unforeseen circumstances and natural disasters, such as an earthquake or a large-scale spreading of an infectious disease, the graduate school will distribute information regarding the entrance examination on the graduate school website or, if known advance, by mail along with the examination slip. If the circumstance requires, the entrance examination date/format may be changed, thus, please visit our website regularly for any cancellation and rescheduling.

14. Inquiry concerning the Examination

The Educational Affairs Section

Graduate School of Dentistry, the University of Osaka

1-8 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871 JAPAN

E-mail: si-soumu-kyomu*office.osaka-u.ac.jp

When using this email address, please replace * with @.