

# International Research Center for Medical Sciences (IRCMS)

## Research Internship Program Application Guidelines for AY2025 (First Recruitment)

### Overview

IRCMS, the center of excellence for world-class research in stem cell, development, aging and cancer, launched the IRCMS Research Internship Program in 2015. We have a strong interest with the highest priority in developing a global collaboration and focus on exchange of young scientists from partner institutions abroad. With opportunities for hands-on research experiences, we offer this program to undergraduate and graduate students who have interest and motivation in advanced medical research as "Research Interns".

### Eligibility for Application

1. All nationalities of undergraduate and graduate students in the field of medical sciences or related field at overseas universities.
2. Other recent graduates of undergraduate or graduate courses, who are planning to enroll in postgraduate program. Preference will be given to applicants who are aiming to enroll in the Graduate School of Medical Sciences (GSMS), at Kumamoto University.
3. An applicant who selects one of the eligible Principal Investigators (PI) below at the IRCMS.

Principal Investigator (PI)	Research Theme / Website
<a href="#"><u>TAKIZAWA Hitoshi</u></a>	<b>Stem Cell Stress</b> <a href="http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/hitoshi_takizawa/">http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/hitoshi_takizawa/</a>
<a href="#"><u>ARIMA Yuichiro</u></a>	<b>Developmental Cardiology</b> <a href="http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/yuichiro_arima/">http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/yuichiro_arima/</a>
<a href="#"><u>KURIHARA Hiroki</u></a>	<b>Multicellular Dynamics</b> <a href="https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/pis/hiroki_kurihara/">https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/pis/hiroki_kurihara/</a>
<a href="#"><u>SASHIDA Goro</u></a>	<b>Transcriptional Regulation in Leukemogenesis</b> <a href="http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/goro_sashida/">http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/goro_sashida/</a>
<a href="#"><u>SHENG Guojun</u></a>	<b>Developmental Morphogenesis</b> <a href="http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/guojun_sheng/">http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/guojun_sheng/</a>
<a href="#"><u>MIHARADA Kenichi</u></a>	<b>Proteostasis in Stem Cell</b> <a href="https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/pis/kenichi_miharada/">https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/pis/kenichi_miharada/</a>
<a href="#"><u>MIZUNO Hidenobu</u></a>	<b>Multi-dimensional imaging</b> <a href="http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/hidenobu_mizuno/">http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/hidenobu_mizuno/</a>
<a href="#"><u>UMEMOTO Terumasa</u></a>	<b>Hematopoietic Stem Cell Engineering</b> <a href="http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/terumasa_umemoto/">http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/terumasa_umemoto/</a>
<a href="#"><u>KUROTAKI Daisuke</u></a>	<b>Chromatin Organization in Immune Cell Development</b> <a href="http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/daisuke_kurotaki/">http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/research/daisuke_kurotaki/</a>
<a href="#"><u>TAKAHASHI Yuta</u></a>	<b>Epigenetic Inheritance</b> <a href="https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/pis/Yuta_Takahashi/">https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/pis/Yuta_Takahashi/</a>
<a href="#"><u>MORISHIMA Tatsuya</u></a>	<b>Epitranscriptome in hematopoiesis</b> <a href="https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/jrpi/">https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/jrpi/</a>

<a href="#">ASAI Rieko</a>	<b>Cardiac Morphogenesis</b> <a href="https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/jrpi/">https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/jrpi/</a>
<a href="#">LIU Norika</a>	<b>Macrophages Biology</b> <a href="https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/jrpi/">https://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/members/jrpi/</a>

\*Click PI's name to contact

### Duration

2 to 8 weeks until early March 2026.

### NOTE:

- The period of internship should be discussed with host PI ahead of time.
- The periods from August 9<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup>, and December 27<sup>th</sup> to January 4<sup>rd</sup> 2026 should be excluded and avoided from the program duration due to university's holidays when you plan to visit.

### Required documents

1. Application form and CV (please click [here](#) to download a form).
2. A letter of recommendation written by academic supervisor(s) of the home institution, or the last university attended.
3. Additional supporting documents if any (e.g., awards, publications).

### NOTE:

- All documents should be submitted to the IRCMS online registration system below, by email will not be accepted.  
<https://forms.office.com/r/NwJckNmHLJ>
- The documents must be written in either English or Japanese created in A4 size in PDF format. A document written in other than these languages must be accompanied with an English translation.
- Submitted documents will not be returned.
- An application passed the submission deadline is not acceptable.
- An applicant who makes false statements in the documents will be disqualified from taking the selection process or will be disqualified to receive the financial support even after selection.

### Application Period

From Wednesday February 12 through Friday March 14, 2025

### Application Procedures

1. An applicant must find a host PI from the list above and contact the PI directly to discuss plans for the research project and travel schedule before starting the process.
2. The host PI will review the submitted application documents.
3. The next screening process will be based on the documents, and the final result will be determined by the IRCMS Research Internship committee.
4. The IRCMS Admin Office will notify you the result by email. Successful participants must confirm their firm participation by replying within 7 days after the result notification was sent. If no reply is received within 7 days for whatever reason, IRCMS will withdraw the result and cancel the IRCMS Research Internship Program.

### NOTE:

- Those who intend to apply to a Doctoral Course (PhD) of the Graduate School of Medical Sciences (GSMS) at Kumamoto University would be selected with higher priority.

**Financial aid**

IRCMS provides financial support to the participants for travel expenses and accommodation during the IRCMS Research Internship Program. There is no participation fee for the program.

- 1) Travel expenses: One round-trip air ticket between the place of residence and Kumamoto. (IRCMS will arrange the most reasonable travel means for participants.)
- 2) Accommodation: All or part of the accommodation costs during the program will be provided.

**NOTE:**

- The participant must consult the travel schedule with the host PI before travel occurs.
- The participant must be financially responsible for the daily expenses during the program period. It is highly recommended that you should prepare some cash in Japanese yen, or another major foreign currency convertible into Japanese yen, or a credit card.

**Obligations of Research Interns**

1. Participants must obtain an appropriate health and travel insurance covering the travel period.
2. Participants must submit a weekly report.
3. At the conclusion of the program, participants must submit a final report on the research project.
4. Participants must return home soon after the completion of program.

**Contact for inquiries**

Administration Office  
International Research Center for Medical Sciences (IRCMS)  
Kumamoto University  
Email: [ircms@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:ircms@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp)  
<http://ircms.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/>