

2027 Admission

International Students Entrance Examination

Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research

Application Guidelines

Note 1: Please be sure to check the Application Guidelines Supplement (Common to all Graduate Schools) on our Graduate School Admissions website.

Note 2: The application guidelines are for the International Students Entrance Examination for Japanese-based programs.

Note 3: All application forms designated by Kansai University are in Japanese.

Kansai University

Graduate School

Admission Policy

Master's Degree Program

The Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research Studies accepts those who have the following knowledge and skills, the ability to think, make judgements, and express themselves, and who have a proactive attitude, all of which are necessary qualities for graduate school students to have as outlined in the Diploma Policy and the Curriculum Policy of the Graduate School:

1. A high level of foreign language proficiency, intercultural communicative competency, and a basic Bachelor's level of knowledge and skills in the fields of foreign language education, intercultural communication, and interpretation and translation studies.
2. Experience as a professional foreign language teachers, and a willingness to critically analyze their own experiences in order to improve their performance, and to discover and solve various workplace issues.
3. A strong willingness to study proactively in one of the three programs of foreign language education, intercultural communication, and interpretation and translation studies.

Ph.D. Degree Program

The Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research Studies accepts those who have the following knowledge and skills, and abilities, and who have a proactive attitude, all of which are necessary qualities outlined in the Diploma Policy and the Curriculum Policy of the Graduate School:

1. A high level of foreign language proficiency and deep understanding of cross-cultural communication, a basic level of expertise in foreign language education in the Master's programs in one of the fields of foreign language education, and sufficient research and practical experience.
2. The ability to conduct interdisciplinary research using "Think and Practice" capabilities, and to disseminate the results of one's research both domestically and internationally.
3. A strong willingness and sufficient ideas to conduct research proactively and independently.

Application Requirements

Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research (Master's Degree Program)

Graduate School, Major, and Enrollment Capacity

Graduate School	Major	Enrollment Capacity
Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research	Foreign Language Education and Research Major	25

Note: The Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research has not established separate enrollment capacities for each type of entrance examination.

Master's Degree Program: International Students Entrance Examination (October Examination, December Examination and February Examination)

1. Qualification

Applicants must satisfy one of the following 5 conditions:

(including applicants who are expected to satisfy one of the conditions (1)~(4) shown below before enrolling in the Graduate School)

- (1) Applicants who have completed a regular 16-year program of school education outside Japan (Note 1).
- (2) Applicants who have graduated from Japanese universities as international students.
- (3) Applicants who have completed a 3-year or longer program and have been awarded a degree by an overseas university or school (see Note 2 below) that is recognized as being equivalent to a Bachelor's degree. (2016 ordinance of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, No. 19).
- (4) Applicants who have completed, as an international student, a specialized course designated by MEXT † at a Japanese professional training college on or after the date specified by MEXT. The course must satisfy the conditions set by MEXT, including a required term of at least four years.

† MEXT stands for the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan

- (5) Applicants who, through an individual screening for admission eligibility conducted by this Graduate School, are recognized as having academic ability equivalent to or superior to that of university graduates, excluding foreign nationals who are recognized as having completed a regular course of school education in Japan.

Note 1: Those who have received their education from one of the following are considered to have the equivalent qualification to (1) above, as long as the total period is no more than four years.

- Elementary schools, junior high schools, high schools, etc. that are run in accordance with Japanese school education law
- Foreign schools in Japan
- Overseas educational facilities that are accredited, or have been designated, by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology

Note 2: Such universities or schools shall be evaluated by an organization approved by a relevant official institution in the country of origin for their education and research activities, or recognized as such by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology.

【IMPORTANT】 Notes Regarding Pre-qualification Individual Screening for Entrance Examination

1. People who are eligible:
Applicants under qualification (5)
 2. Application Procedures and Deadline:
Refer to 'Pre-qualification Individual Screening'(in the separate "Items Common to All Graduate Schools" file, p.4).
- (Note 1) Applicants who have completed, or are expected to complete, a program of school education of fewer than 16 years and who hold, or expect to hold, a bachelor's degree may be permitted to apply.
- (Note 2) Applicants who have been awarded, or expect to be awarded, a bachelor's degree in a foreign country that is equivalent to graduation from a Japanese university may be permitted to apply. In such cases, please inquire at the Graduate School Admissions Division as soon as possible.

【Important】 Those who are considering applying to the Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research are strongly encouraged to participate in the Graduate School Briefing Session before submitting their application documents.

2. Application Documents

After paying the application fee of ¥ 35,000, please submit the documents listed below.

Carefully review “V. Notes on Application Documents” on pages 51–53 of the Application Guidelines (Japanese version), and ensure all documents are correct and complete before submission.

Please submit the ‘Application Document List (Checklist)’ along with your application documents.

Documents to be Submitted 【Document Number】	Notes
Application Form (for submission) 【①】	Available for printing after completion of the online application registration and payment of the application fee. (Color printing is recommended.)
Statement of Reason for Applying in Japanese 【②】	Use the form designated by the University.
Original transcript from previous universities and/or other institutions 【③】	Submit original transcripts. If you cannot submit an original transcript, please submit one that has been notarized by an embassy or another public institution. ◦ If you are currently enrolled at a university, you should submit your latest (original) transcript when applying. ◦ If you transferred from another university to your current one, you should submit the (original) transcripts from both universities and/or any other institutions you have received your education from as well. ◦ If you studied abroad while enrolled at your current university, and the credits for your study abroad have been approved but are not listed on your academic transcript, or if the credits have not yet been approved after studying abroad, you should submit the (original) academic transcript from the university where you studied abroad as well. ◦ If you participated in a DD (Dual Degree/Double Degree) program while enrolled at your current university, but the approved credits are not listed on your academic transcript, or if only the total number of credits is shown, you should submit the (original) transcript from the university where you participated in the program as well. Note 1: If the certificate has multiple pages, the seal of the university or the signature of the person in charge of issuing the certificate is required on all pages. Note 2: If you did not take any courses during the period you were enrolled, or if there is a blank period on your transcript due to your studying abroad, please prepare a statement of reasons for that period (free format) and submit it together with the other documents (a school seal is not required).
Original certificate of (expected) graduation from previous universities and/or other institutions 【④】	Both entrance and (expected) graduation dates must be listed. If the above information is listed on the Application Document ③, this certificate does not need to be submitted. Submit an original certificate of (expected) graduation. If you cannot submit an original certificate, please submit a certificate of (expected) graduation that has been notarized by an embassy or another public institution. Note: Applicants with Qualification (3) are required to submit a bachelor's degree certificate in addition to the graduation certificate.

Documents to be Submitted 【Document Number】	Notes
Research Plan in Japanese 【⑤】	Submit 1 original and 4 copies written horizontally within 4 pages in A4 format. Include the following 4 items. For item (4), include the points that are relevant to your research plan. (1) Title of your research (2) Your name (3) Keywords (3 to 5 keywords that indicate the main areas of focus in your research) (4) Main body of text · Significance, social necessity, originality and creativity of your research. · Present situation, problems and issues that remain to be solved in your discipline, and their relevance to your research. · Theory, framework and methodology to be used. · Phenomena to be considered, method of data collection, type of data, and method of analysis to be used. · Expected effects of your research. · List of references written in APA style or the standard style used for your language or field. Note: When the main text is divided into sections or subsections, include suitable titles for each.
Copy of Residence Card or Passport 【⑯】	【Residents in Japan】 A copy of both sides of the residence card. 【Residents outside Japan】 A copy of the passport page showing the applicant's name, date of birth, photograph, and expiration date. Applicants without a passport must submit a copy of an ID issued by their home country.
One photograph	Affix a photograph taken within the last 3 months to the Statement of Reason for Applying. Your photograph should not be retouched or edited.

3. Screening Method

The Graduate School will conduct a comprehensive evaluation of each applicant's submitted documents, as well as the results of their written and oral examinations, to determine eligibility for admission.

4. The Pass/Fail Criteria

Admissions will be determined in descending order based on applicants' combined scores on the written and oral examinations. If either the written or oral examination score does not meet the criteria, the applicant may fail despite of the total score. In order to examine and screen the necessary erudition to study in the Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research, the number of successful applicants may not reach the enrollment capacity.

5. Examination Components

Written Examination (Foreign Language)	Oral Examination
10:00 ~ 11:30 (90 minutes)	To be held after the written examination

Note: More information about the oral examination will be provided on the day of the written examination.

6. Examination Subjects and Allocation of Points

Written Examination (Foreign Language)	Oral Examination
100 Points	200 Points
Japanese	You will be asked questions in relation to the following: (1) Prior knowledge of your field of specialization < including the contents of the Glossary > (2) Oral language proficiency required for your research (3) The research plan submitted with your application (4) Other relevant points

Note: If you will select an academic advisor marked ※, please contact the Kansai University Graduate School Admissions Division in advance.

The academic advisors may change as needed. If it changes, we will notify applicants via posting a notice (Japanese Version) on our website. Please check our website before applying. (2026/07)
<<https://kansaigradsch.kansai-u.ac.jp/>>

Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research: List of Professors with Seminars (Academic Advisors) for the 2027 Academic Year (Master's Degree Program) <Prospective>

Language of Research	Academic Field	Academic Advisor	Research Subject
English	Foreign Language Education	IKEDA, Maiko	Applied Linguistics (Individual Differences such as L2 Learning Strategies, Motivation, Self-efficacy, and Engagement, Elementary School English Teaching)
		IMAI, Hiroyuki	Applied Linguistics (L2 Classroom Research, Teacher Professional Development, Teaching Materials Development, Speaking Instruction)
		SHINTANI, Natsuko※	Second Language Acquisition, Task-based Language Teaching, Second Language Writing, Second Language Pragmatics, Learner Individual Differences, Language Teaching for Young Learners
		TAKEUCHI, Osamu	Applied Linguistics (L2 Learning Strategies, L2 Learning Motivation, Self-efficacy, L2 Anxiety, Self-regulated Learning), Second Language Acquisition, Educational Technology, TEFL, Teaching English for Younger Learners, Testing
		TAMURA, Yu	Second Language Acquisition, Psycholinguistics (L2 Sentence Processing, Lexical Processing), Task-based Language Teaching
		NABEL, Toshiyo	English Language Teaching and Learning, Second Language Acquisition (Classroom Interaction, Corrective Feedback, Learner Awareness in L2 Learning Processes)
		HUMPHRIES, Simon	Foreign Language Teaching and Applied Linguistics (The Impact of Culture, Identity and Emotions on Teaching Methods; Factors Affecting Curriculum Development)
		MIZUMOTO, Atsushi	The Use of AI in Education, Corpus Studies, Vocabulary Learning and Teaching, Language Testing, Learning Strategy, Research Methodology
		YAMASHITA, Taichi	Language Testing, Computer Assisted Language Learning, Second Language Writing, Research Methodology
		YAMATO, Kazuhito	Applied Linguistics (English Pronunciation Teaching and Learning, Prosody)
		RAMONDA, Kris	Figurative Language (Metaphor, Metonymy, and Idioms), Vocabulary Acquisition, Extensive Reading, Materials Development
	Intercultural Communication	ANAN, Nobuko※	Japanese Cultural Studies, Theatre and Performance Studies, Gender and Sexuality Studies
		ALLEN, Todd	English and Japanese L1/L2 Sociopragmatics, Discourse Analysis, Intercultural Communication and Education, Linguistic Ethnography, and Qualitative Research Methods
		TAJIMA, Noriaki	Communication Studies, Intercultural Communication (Critical/Cultural approach), Speech Communication Education, Rhetorical Studies
		BARKE, Andrew	Language and Culture, Contrastive Linguistics (Intercultural Understanding, L2 Pragmatic Competence, Discourse Analysis, Sociolinguistics, Linguistic Construction of Identity, etc.)
		HUMPHRIES, Simon	Intercultural Communication (Factors Affecting Learners' Ability to Speak English and Foreign Languages other than English; Changes in Learners' Identity due to Studying Abroad)
		MASUMOTO, Tomoko	Communication, Intercultural Communication
		MORISAKI, Seiichi	Intercultural Communication Studies (Influence of Culture on Communication Behavior, Cross-cultural Adaptation, Cultural Values, Intercultural Communication Competence)

English	Interpreting and Translation Studies*	AKASHI, Motoko	The Sociology of Literary Translation and Translators; the History of Literary Translation and Translators; Translation Theory; and Textual Analysis
		SAKAMOTO, Akiko	Sociology of Translation (with a focus on Translation Technology), Translation Theories, Translation Text Analysis (including Audiovisual Translation), Translator Education
Japanese	Foreign Language Education	ANAN, Nobuko※	Japanese Cultural Studies, Theatre and Performance Studies, Gender and Sexuality Studies
		IZAWA, Sayaka	Japanese Pedagogy, Japanese Language Education in the Community and for Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Children, Mother Tongue, Heritage Language, and Bilingual Education
		SHIMAZU, Momoyo	Japanese Language Education, Discourse Analysis (Narrative)
		TAKANASHI, Shino	Japanese Pedagogy, Japanese Linguistics (Modern Japanese Grammar)
		BARKE, Andrew	Japanese Pragmatics, Discourse Analysis, Sociolinguistics (L2 Pragmatic Competence, Discourse Analysis, Sociolinguistics, Linguistic Construction of Identity, etc.)
	Intercultural Communication	ANAN, Nobuko※	Japanese Cultural Studies, Theatre and Performance Studies, Gender and Sexuality Studies
		BARKE, Andrew	Language and Culture, Contrastive Linguistics (Intercultural Understanding, L2 Pragmatic Competence, Discourse Analysis, Sociolinguistics, Linguistic Construction of Identity, etc.)
		TAJIMA, Noriaki	Communication Studies, Intercultural Communication (Critical/Cultural approach), Speech Communication Education, Rhetorical Studies
		MASUMOTO, Tomoko	Communication, Intercultural Communication
		MORISAKI, Seiichi	Intercultural Communication Studies (Influence of Culture on Communication Behavior, Cross-cultural Adaptation, Cultural Values, Intercultural Communication Competence)
	Interpreting and Translation Studies*	AKASHI, Motoko	The Sociology of Literary Translation and Translators; the History of Literary Translation and Translators; Translation Theory; and Textual Analysis
		SAKAMOTO, Akiko	Sociology of Translation (with a focus on Translation Technology), Translation Theories, Translation Text Analysis (including Audiovisual Translation), Translator Education
German	Foreign Language Education	TAKAHASHI, Hideaki	German Linguistics, German Education
	Intercultural Communication	TAKAHASHI, Hideaki	Sociolinguistics in German-speaking Countries (Language Policy, Languages of Immigrants, Attitudes, Identity etc.)
Chinese	Foreign Language Education	KOJIMA, Miyuki	Chinese Linguistics (Syntax, Semantics, Pragmatics), Chinese Japanese Contrastive Linguistics
Korean	Foreign Language Education	MATSUOKA, Yuta	Korean Linguistics (Descriptive Linguistics, Sociolinguistics), Korean Language Education (Contrastive Linguistics)

* Note) The pair of languages mainly dealt with within the area of “Interpreting and Translation Studies” is “English ↔ Japanese.”
Your language of research will be decided during your oral examination.
If you have any questions regarding this, please contact the faculty member you wish to receive supervision from in advance.

Online Study Option [For Master's Degree Program]

To better meet the diverse needs of those enrolled in our Master's program and to expand opportunities for learning and research, the Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research has set up an Online Study Option for the fields of Foreign Language Education (English language-related research only) and Interpreting and Translation Studies.

It is therefore possible for students who find commuting to university difficult due to work commitments or because they live far away to complete their Master's degree program by taking courses online.

In addition to the standard two-year course, students can complete the three-year course using the Online Study Option. However, it is not possible to complete the Aston DD Program and the Japanese Language Education Specialist Training Course online because they include participation in face-to-face classes.

Students who use the Online Study Option can take classes from their home or workplace using an Internet-based application. Most classes can be taken remotely, with a few exceptions due to the nature of the content. Even the final (oral) examination can be taken remotely.

There is no special entrance examination for those who wish to use the Online Study Option. Instead, selection will be made using the existing (face-to-face) entrance exam. No quota is set for the Online Study Option.

Use of the Online Study Option is limited to people residing in Japan. Please contact your preferred academic advisor in advance. The Graduate School will determine approval to use the Online Study Option after review.

Procedure for Applying for the Online Study Option

Students wishing to use the Online Study Option must contact the academic advisor they would like to receive supervision from before they submit their application form for the Program. The Online Study Option Application Form and all application materials (except the printout of the online application form) should be submitted to the Graduate School Admissions Division before the specified deadline. Applicants will be notified of the decision regarding approval to use the Online Study Option after the application documents have been reviewed by the Graduate School.

	October Examination	December Examination	February Examination
Application Deadline	July 9 (Thu.), 2026	October 1 (Thu.), 2026	December 3 (Thu.), 2026
Notification Date	July 23 (Thu.), 2026	October 22 (Thu.), 2026	December 10 (Thu.), 2026

Extended Enrollment System

To better meet the diverse needs of enrolled students and to expand opportunities for graduate-level learning and research, the Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research offers a three-year course in addition to the standard two-year Master's Degree Program. This program offers the following characteristics. However, students admitted through the General Entrance Examination (Aston DD Program) can only select the two-year course due to the nature of the program.

(1) Annual Course Credit Limits

Under this program, the limit of annual credit is as follows:

Course	First Year	Second Year	Third Year
Two-year Course	30	30	—
Three-year Course	20	20	20

(2) Assignment of Classes by Year for the Three-year Course

Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research	The classes taught by the student's faculty advisor as well as the Master's Degree Program Seminars 1A and 1B are assigned to first-year students. Master's Degree Program Seminars 2A and 2B are assigned to third-year students.
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(3) Changing Courses after Enrollment

When enrolled students enter their second year, they may request a switch from the three-year course to the two-year course if the following conditions are met. If they do so, the credit limit for their second year at the Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research will be 30 credits.

Eligible students will be notified during the fall semester of their first year via the University's Information System. Please note that it is NOT possible to switch from a two-year course to a three-year course.

The student must have earned 20 credits, which is the requirement for submitting a master's thesis, as of the end of their first year.

(4) Limit on Years of Enrollment

The limit of years of enrollment for both the two-year course and three-year course is 4 years.

(5) Graduation Requirements

The graduation requirements are the same for both the two-year and three-year courses. Students enrolled in the three-year course shall take three years to complete the same requirements as students enrolled in the two-year course. For more information, please refer to the Kansai University student handbook 'KAN-CAN!'.

(6) Tuition Fees

If you change your period of attendance at the Graduate School during the course of your study from 3 years to 2 years, your tuition fee will become the same as that of the two-year course.

(Please confirm the exact amount of the tuition fees and other fees to pay when you carry out the procedures for making the change.)

If you wish to apply for the three-year course under the Extended Enrollment System, select "Three-year Course" for the "Extended Enrollment" field on the Online Application. Your selection of either course will have no effect on the admission decision. If you wish to switch courses after being admitted, inform the Graduate School Admissions Division by Spring enrollment: January 8 (Fri.), 2027.

Please note that applicants admitted under the University's February Examination cannot switch courses prior to their enrollment.

Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research (Ph.D. Degree Program)

Graduate School, Major and Enrollment Capacity

Graduate School	Major	Enrollment Capacity
Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research	Foreign Language Education and Research Major	8

Note: The Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research has not established separate enrollment quotas for each enrollment semester or type of entrance examination.

Ph.D. Degree Program: International Students Entrance Examination (October Examination, December Examination and February Examination)

1. Qualification

Applicants shall satisfy one of the following five conditions:

(including applicants who are expected to satisfy one of the following conditions (1) ~ (3) before enrolling in the Graduate School)

- (1) Applicants who have been awarded, at a graduate school outside Japan, a degree equivalent to a master's degree or professional degree.
- (2) Applicants who have received a Master's or professional degree from a Japanese graduate school as international students.
- (3) Applicants who have completed programs and received degrees equivalent to a Master's degree from the United Nations University*.

* United Nations University; established by the resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations on December 11, 1972, as stipulated in Article 1 Paragraph 2 of the Act on Special Measures incidental to the Enforcement of the Agreement between the United Nations and Japan regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations University.

- (4) Applicants designated by MEXT†. (Bulletin No. 118 of 1989)

† MEXT stands for the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan

- (5) Applicants recognized by the Graduate School as having academic ability equivalent to or higher than that of a Master's degree holder and who have reached the age of 24 before enrolling in the Graduate School. This requirement shall not apply to those who do not have Japanese citizenship, but who are recognized as having completed a regular Japanese school education program.

【IMPORTANT】 Notes Regarding Pre-qualification Individual Screening for Entrance Examination

1. Subjects:
Applicants under conditions (4) or (5)
2. Application Procedures and Deadline:
Refer to 'Pre-qualification Individual Screening' (in the separate "Items Common to All Graduate Schools" file, p.4).

【Important】 Those who are considering applying to the Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research are strongly encouraged to participate in one of the Graduate School Briefing Sessions before submitting their application documents.

2. Application Documents

After paying the application fee of ¥ 35,000, please submit the documents listed below.

Carefully review "V. Notes on Application Documents" on pages 51–53 of the Application Guidelines (Japanese version), and ensure all documents are correct and complete before submission.

Please submit the 'Application Document List (Checklist)' along with your application documents.

Documents to be Submitted 【Document Number】	Notes
Application Form (for submission) 【①】	Available for printing after completion of the online application registration and payment of the application fee. (Color printing is recommended.)
Statement of Reason for Applying in Japanese 【②】	Use the form designated by the University.

Documents to be Submitted 【Document Number】	Notes
Original transcript from previous universities and/or other institutions 【③】	Submit original transcripts. If you cannot submit an original transcript, please submit one that has been notarized by an embassy or another public institution. ◦ If you are currently enrolled in a graduate program, you should submit your latest transcript (original) when applying. ◦ If you studied abroad while enrolled in your current graduate school, and the credits for your study abroad have been approved but are not listed on the academic transcript of the graduate school you are enrolled in, or the credits have not yet been approved after studying abroad, you should submit the (original) academic transcript from the graduate school where you studied abroad as well. ◦ If you participated in a DD (Dual Degree/Double Degree) program while enrolled at your current university, but the approved credits are not listed on your academic transcript from the graduate school you are enrolled in, or if only the total number of credits is shown, you should submit the (original) transcript of the graduate school where you participated in the program as well. ◦ Note 1: If the certificate has multiple pages, the seal of the university or the signature of the person in charge of issuing the certificate is required on all pages. ◦ Note 2: If you did not take any courses during the period you were enrolled, or if there is a blank period on your transcript due to studying abroad, please prepare a statement of reasons for that period (free format) and submit it together with the other documents (a school seal is not required).
Original certificate of (expected) completion from previous graduate school, or a notarized document certifying (expected) completion 【④】	Both the entrance and (expected) completion dates must be listed. If the above information is listed on the Application Document ③, this certificate does not need to be submitted. Submit an original certificate of (expected) completion. If you cannot submit an original certificate, please submit a certificate of (expected) completion that has been notarized by an embassy or another public institution.
Research Plan 【⑤】	Submit 1 original and 4 copies written horizontally within 4 pages in A4 format in Japanese or the target language of research. Include the following 4 items. For item (4), include the points that are relevant to your research plan. (1) Title of your research (2) Your name (3) Keywords of your research (3 to 5 keywords that indicate the main areas of focus in your research) (4) Main body of text • Significance, social necessity, originality and creativity of your research. • Present situation, problems and issues that remain to be solved in your discipline, and their relevance to your research. • Theory, framework and methodology to be used. • Phenomena to be considered, the method of data collection, type of data, and method of analysis to be used.

Documents to be Submitted 【Document Number】	Notes
	• Expected effects of your research. • List of references written in APA style or the standard style used for your language or field. Note: When the main text is divided into sections or subsections, include suitable titles for each.
If the applicant meets the requirements for exemption from the written foreign language examination, the applicant must submit the document certifying such an exemption. 【①】 ★Applicable persons only	Only submit this form if you meet the exemption criteria for the written foreign-language examination. See Section 6, “Examination Subjects and Allocation of Points,” and the “Exemption Criteria for Foreign Language Examination” below. Please submit the original and one copy of your foreign language qualification examination certificate. The submitted original will be returned on the day of the examination. If only a digital certificate is issued, please display or download the certificate details by the method specified on the website or system of the foreign language test organization, print the screen on A4 paper, and submit one copy. However, digital certificates may be submitted only if they can be verified by the method specified by the foreign language test organization. ※ For the following foreign language tests, please submit the certificates listed below.
	● TOEFL iBT® After requesting score reporting from your ETS account to Kansai University Graduate Schools (Designated Institution (DI) Code: G128), submit both ① and ② below. ① A printed copy of the “Test Taker Score Report (PDF file)” downloaded from your ETS account on A4 paper. ② A printed copy of the screen showing completion of the score reporting request on A4 paper. ※ The screen must show G128 (Kansai University Graduate Schools) as the score recipient and the 16-digit Appointment Number (test reservation number, formerly Registration Number). Note: TOEFL iBT® Home Edition scores are not accepted. For TOEFL ITP® Test, submit the original “Examinee Score Report” and one copy.
	● TOEIC® L&R 【Examinees in Japan】 A printed copy of the downloaded PDF file of the “Digital Official Score Certificate” on A4 paper. ※ Please follow the “Procedures for TOEIC Public Test Score Confirmation Service” on page 53 and complete the score submission procedure through the TOEIC application website. 【Examinees outside Japan】 The original and one copy of the “OFFICIAL SCORE CERTIFICATE.” Note: Scores from group testing programs such as TOEIC® L&R Test (IP) are not accepted.

Documents to be Submitted 【Document Number】	Notes
Copy of Residence Card or Passport 【⑩】	Applicable only to non-Japanese nationals, excluding special permanent residents. 【Residents in Japan】 A copy of both sides of the residence card. 【Residents outside Japan】 A copy of the passport page showing the applicant's name, date of birth, photograph, and expiration date. Applicants without a passport must submit a copy of an ID issued by their home country.
One photograph	Affix a photograph taken within the last 3 months to the Statement of Reason for Applying. Your photograph should not be retouched or edited.
Applicants who meet one of the qualifications (1)-(3) and have already submitted a master's thesis	
Outline of master's thesis 【⑥】 ※	Approximately 2,000 characters; submit one original and four copies. The document must be prepared on A4 paper (approximately 40 characters × 40 lines per page, horizontal writing), in Japanese or in the language of the applicant's research.
Copy of master's thesis 【⑦】 ※	5 copies. (Submission by USB flash drive is also possible. In this case, keep the data on the USB flash drive. Like other application documents, the USB flash drive will not be returned.)
Applicants who meet one of the qualifications (1)-(3) and expect to submit a master's thesis	
Outline of thesis intended to be submitted as a master's thesis 【⑥】 ※	Approximately 2,000 characters; submit one original and four copies. The document must be prepared on A4 paper (approximately 40 characters × 40 lines per page, horizontal writing), in Japanese or in the language of the applicant's research.
A thesis intended to be submitted as a master's thesis or a copy of the master's thesis draft 【⑦】 ※	5 copies. (Submission by USB flash drive is also possible. In this case, keep the data on the USB flash drive. Like other application documents, the USB flash drive will not be returned.)
Applicants who meet one of the qualifications (1)-(3) and obtained a master's degree without submitting a master's thesis	
Outline of research of the master's program 【⑦】	Approximately 2,000 characters; submit one original and four copies. The document must be prepared on A4 paper (approximately 40 characters × 40 lines per page, horizontal writing), in Japanese or in the language of the applicant's research.
Applicants who meet one of the qualifications (1)-(3), and who obtained a master's degree some time ago and have research accomplishments.	
Outline of the latest research paper 【⑥】	Approximately 2,000 characters; submit one original and four copies. The document must be prepared on A4 paper (approximately 40 characters × 40 lines per page, horizontal writing), in Japanese or in the language of the applicant's research.
Copy of the latest research paper 【⑦】	5 copies. (Submission by USB flash drive is also possible. In this case, keep the data on the USB flash drive. Like other application documents, the USB flash drive will not be returned.)

Applicants who meet one of the qualifications (1)-(3), and have a professional degree without having written a master's thesis	
Offprint or copy of a published academic paper 【⑦】	5 copies Note: If applicants do not have “an offprint or a photocopy of a published academic paper,” please submit research results (preliminary draft or abstract of academic conference presentation, or a reprint or copy of a research report).
Applicants who meet the qualification (4) or (5)	
Results Report 【⑧】	Summary of the applicant's research achievements or professional experience (approximately 2,000 characters). Submit one original and four copies. The document must be prepared using a computer on A4 paper (approximately 40 characters × 40 lines per page, horizontal writing), in Japanese or in the language of the applicant's research.
Offprint or Copy of Research Results 【⑩】	5 copies Offprint or copy of academic papers, academic conference presentations or research reports.

Applicants who are expected to complete their master's degree by March 2027 and intend to apply for the February Examination are permitted to submit only the following documents by Friday, January 15, 2027: the outline of the master's thesis 【⑥】 and a copy of the master's thesis 【⑦】.

All other required application documents must be submitted within the application period.

If, by Friday, January 15, 2027, the applicant is unable to submit the outline and copy of the master's thesis, they must instead submit, during the application period, the outline of the thesis intended for submission as the master's thesis 【⑥】 and the thesis intended to be submitted as a master's thesis or a copy of the master's thesis draft 【⑦】.

3. Screening Method

The Graduate School will conduct a comprehensive evaluation of each applicant's submitted documents, as well as the results of their written and oral examinations, to determine eligibility for admission.

Decisions regarding the acceptance/non-acceptance of applicants who are exempted from the written examination will be made based on the combined results of the screening of documents and the applicant's oral examination.

4. The Pass/Fail Criteria

Admissions will be determined in descending order based on applicants' combined scores on the written and oral examinations.

If either the written or oral examination score does not meet the criteria, the applicant may fail in spite of the total score.

【Written Exam exemption】

For applicants exempt from the written examination, pass/fail decisions are made in descending order of oral examination scores.

To assess the necessary erudition to study in the Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research, the number of successful applicants may not reach the enrollment capacity.

5. Examination Components

Written Examination	Oral Examination
Foreign Language	Held after the written examination
10:00 ~ 11:30 (90 minutes)	

Note: More information about the oral examination will be provided on the day of the written examination. Those applicants who are exempted from the written examination will be notified of the start time of their oral examination on their examination voucher.

6. Examination Subjects and Allocation of Points

The ‘Foreign Language’ written examination will be held in the ‘Target Language of Research’ you have selected. However, if the ‘Target Language of Research’ is the same as your native language, please select a language other than the target language of your research from the table below.

Written Examination (Foreign Language)	Oral Examination
100 Points	200 Points
Exemption	You will be asked questions in relation to the following: (1) Prior knowledge of your field of specialization (2) Oral language proficiency required for your research (3) The research plan submitted with your application (4) Other relevant points
English	
Japanese	
German	
Chinese	
Korean	

Note: If you meet the exemption criteria for the ‘Foreign Language’ written examination (for each language), you will be exempt from sitting the written examination and only the oral examination will be conducted.

【Exemption Criteria for Foreign Language Examination (for each language)】

If you have the following language proficiency, you will be exempt from taking the written examination for the foreign language. However, if the ‘Target Language of Research’ is the same as your native language, the exemption will only apply to languages other than your native language as shown in the following list.

Foreign Language	Exemption Criteria
English	· EIKEN Grade 1 or above · IELTS Overall (academic module) score of 6.5 or above · TOEFL iBT® Test score of 83 or above (including MyBest™ scores), or band score of 4.5 or above · TOEFL ITP® Test (Level 1) score of 567 or above · TOEIC® L&R Test score of 780 or above
Japanese	· No Exemption Criteria
German	· Diplom Deutsch Pre-level 1 (Oberstufe) or above · GOETHE-ZERTIFIKAT B2 or above
Chinese	· Test of Chinese Proficiency Level 2 or above · HSK Level 6 (with a score of 180 or above)
Korean	· The Korean Language Proficiency Test Level 2 or above · TOPIK (Test of Proficiency in Korean) Level 5 or above
French	· Diplome d'Aptitude Pratique au Francais (Test in Practical French Proficiency) Pre-level 1 or above · DELF B2 or above · TCF (Test de Connaissance du Français) Level 4 or above
Spanish	· Evaluación oficial del conocimiento de la lengua española Level 1 or above · DELE B2 or above
Russian	· Test of Russian as a Foreign Language Level 2 or above

Note 1: Regarding the above official scores that have an expiration date, the starting date of online applications must be before expiration date. Certificates must be arranged in time for the first day of the application period. Printouts of scores viewable on websites are not accepted.

Note 2: Applicants with advanced level qualifications or scores in a test other than those listed above must be screened for possible exemption from taking the written examination. If this applies to you, please contact the Graduate School Admissions Division in advance and submit the Application Form for Pre-qualification Individual Screening and all other required application forms (for submission) to the Graduate School Admissions Division by the dates below.

October Examination: July 9 (Thu.), 2026

December Examination: October 1 (Thu.), 2026

February Examination: December 3 (Thu.), 2026

Note: If you will select an academic advisor marked ※, please contact the Kansai University Graduate School Admissions Division in advance.

The academic advisors may change as needed. If it changes, we will notify applicants via posting a notice (Japanese Version) on our website. Please check our website before applying.

<<https://kansaignradsgsch.kansai-u.ac.jp/>>

(2026/07)

Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research: List of Professors with Seminars (Academic Advisors) for the 2027 Academic Year (Ph.D. Degree Program) <Prospective>

Language of Research	Academic Advisor	Research Subject
English	IKEDA, Maiko	Applied Linguistics (Individual Differences such as L2 Learning Strategies, Motivation, Self-efficacy, and Engagement, Self-regulated Learning, Elementary School English Learning and Teaching)
	SAKAMOTO, Akiko*	Sociology of Translation (with a focus on Translation Technology), Translation Theories, Translation Text Analysis (including Audiovisual Translation), Translator Education
	SHINTANI, Natsuko※	Second Language Acquisition, Task-based Language Teaching, Second Language Writing, Second Language Pragmatics, Learner Individual Differences
	TAKEUCHI, Osamu※	Applied Linguistics (L2 Learning Strategies, L2 Learning Motivation, Self-efficacy, L2 Anxiety, Self-regulated Learning), Second Language Acquisition, Educational Technology, TEFL
	NABEL, Toshiyo	English Language Teaching and Learning, Second Language Acquisition (Classroom Interaction, Corrective Feedback, Learner Awareness in L2 Learning Processes)
	MIZUMOTO, Atsushi	The Use of AI in Education, Corpus Studies, Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL), Learning Strategy, Language Testing, ESP/EAP, Vocabulary Learning and Teaching, Research Methodology
	MORISAKI, Seiichi	Intercultural Communication Studies (Influence of Culture on Communication Behavior, Cross-cultural Adaptation, Intercultural Communication Competence)
	YAMATO, Kazuhito	Applied Linguistics (English Pronunciation Teaching and Learning, Prosody)
Japanese	SAKAMOTO, Akiko*	Sociology of Translation (with a focus on Translation Technology), Translation Theories, Translation Text Analysis (including Audiovisual Translation), Translator Education
	SHIMAZU, Momoyo	Japanese Language Education, Discourse Analysis (Narrative)
	TAKANASHI, Shino	Japanese Pedagogy, Japanese Linguistics (Modern Japanese Grammar)
	MORISAKI, Seiichi	Intercultural Communication Studies (Influence of Culture on Communication Behavior, Cross-cultural Adaptation, Intercultural Communication Competence)
German	TAKAHASHI, Hideaki	Sociolinguistics in German-speaking Countries (Language Policy, Languages of Immigrants, attitudes, identity etc.), German Linguistics, German Education
Korean	MATSUOKA, Yuta	Korean Linguistics (Descriptive Linguistics, Sociolinguistics), Korean Language Education (Contrastive Linguistics)

* Note) The pair of languages mainly dealt with is “English ↔ Japanese”. Your language of research will be decided during your oral examination. If you have any questions regarding this, please contact the professor you wish to receive supervision from in advance.

Online Study Option [For Ph.D. Degree Program]

To better meet the diverse needs of students enrolled in our Ph.D. program and to expand opportunities for learning and research, the Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research has set up an Online Study Option.

It is therefore possible for students who find commuting to university difficult due to work commitments or because they live far away (including overseas) to complete their Ph.D. degree program by taking courses online. However, it is not possible to complete the Japanese Language Education Specialist Training Course online because it includes participation in face-to-face classes.

Students who use the Online Study Option can take classes from their home or workplace using an Internet-based application. Most classes can be taken remotely, with a few exceptions due to the nature of the content. Even the Qualifying Examination, the hearing session, and the final (oral) exam can be taken remotely.

There is no special entrance exam for those who wish to use the Online Study Option. Instead, selection will be made using the existing (face-to-face) entrance examination. No quota is set for the Online Study Option.

Please contact your preferred academic advisor in advance. The Graduate School will determine approval to use the Online Study Option after review.

For those who are exempted from the (foreign language) written examination, the entrance (oral) examination will be conducted remotely.

Procedure for Applying for the Online Study Option

Students wishing to use the Online Study Option must contact the academic advisor they would like to receive supervision from before they submit their application form for the Program. The Online Study Option Application Form and all application materials (except the printout of the online application form) should be submitted to the Graduate School Admissions Division before the specified deadline. Applicants will be notified of the decision regarding approval to use the Online Study Option after the application documents have been reviewed by the Graduate School.

■ Spring Enrollment

	October Examination	December Examination	February Examination
Application Deadline	July 9 (Thu.), 2026	October 1 (Thu.), 2026	December 3 (Thu.), 2026
Notification Date	July 23 (Thu.), 2026	October 22 (Thu.), 2026	December 10 (Thu.), 2026

■ Fall Enrollment

	July Examination
Application Deadline	April 28(Wed.), 2027
Notification Date	May 12(Wed.), 2027

Notes on Application Documents

Note: Documents received will not be returned.

1. Statement of Reason for Applying

(1) How to Fill Out the Form

In principle, please use the PDF form function to enter the required information on a computer or similar device, without changing the format designated by the University, and then print the form.

However, if there are sections where the information cannot be entered correctly, or sections where the form function has not been set, please print the form first and fill in those sections by hand.

If filling in the form by hand, be sure to use black ink or a black ballpoint pen. Do not use erasable ballpoint pens.

(2) Research Target Language, Desired Field, and Academic Advisor

Please refer to ① to ③ below and select your research target language, desired field of study, and desired Academic Advisor.

① Master's Degree Program

Please refer to the section titled "Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research: List of Professors with Seminars (Academic Advisors) for the 2027 Academic Year (Master's Degree Program) <Prospective>" in the Application Guidelines.

※Applicants must select both a first-choice and second-choice Academic Advisors. However, this does not apply to applicants whose research target language is German, Chinese, or Korean.

※Applicants who wish to study in the Interpreting and Translation Studies field should select "Other" as their research target language.

※The academic advisors will be decided at the time of enrollment. The applicant's preference will be taken into consideration, but the academic advisors may be changed from the perspective of research supervision. Students may also take courses outside their assigned field.

Doctoral Program

Please refer to the section titled "Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research: List of Professors with Seminars (Academic Advisors) for the 2027 Academic Year (Ph.D. Degree Program) <Prospective>" in the Application Guidelines.

If you do not have a second-choice seminar instructor, please write "None."

The seminar instructor will be decided at the time of enrollment after taking the applicant's preference into consideration.

No fields of study are established in the Doctoral Program, Second Stage.

② Graduate School of Foreign Language Education and Research Website: <https://www.kansai-u.ac.jp/fl/graduate/>

③ Kansai University Graduate School Information (Electronic Brochure)

(3) Foreign Language for the Entrance Examination

Please select the foreign language for the entrance examination in accordance with these Application Guidelines.

However, for the General Entrance Examination (Aston DD Program), Entrance Examination for Students Skipping a Grade, and Entrance Examination for In-service Teachers: One-year Program, there is no written foreign language examination, so selection is not required.

(4) Changes after Application

After submitting the application, no changes will be accepted to the research target language, desired field of study, seminar instructor, or foreign language for the entrance examination.

(5) Educational Background

In the educational background section, please list all educational institutions you have attended, from elementary school through university and graduate school, in chronological order from oldest to newest.

If you have any history of university or graduate school enrollment, transfer to another faculty, transfer admission, study abroad, enrollment as a credited auditor, etc., please include all such information. Please also include any Japanese language school you attended, as well as any university or graduate school where you were enrolled as a research student. For universities and graduate schools, please write the names of faculties/departments and graduate schools/majors exactly as they appear on your certificates, without omission.

(6) Graduation Thesis / Master's Thesis Title

The title of the undergraduate (or master's) thesis must be entered in the designated field, and a tentative title is acceptable. If the thesis title has not yet been decided, enter "TBD." If there is no thesis, enter "None." If the applicant does not have a supervisor, enter "None."

(7) Name to Be Entered

Please enter your name as shown on your residence certificate, passport, or residence card.

International applicants should write their names in katakana, kanji, or the Roman alphabet. Hiragana may not be used.

If substitute kanji or other characters are used in the application registration, it is acceptable that the characters in the application documents differ from those in the application registration.

2. Research Plan

Please prepare the research plan in accordance with the instructions stated in "2. Application Documents" in the application details for each type of entrance examination.

3. Other

(1) Please submit the originals of your academic transcript and certificate of graduation/completion, or expected graduation/completion.

"Original" refers to a certificate issued in paper format by the university, graduate school, or other institution.

Printouts of PDF or other file formats will not be treated as originals.

However, if certificates are issued only in PDF or another file format, please submit a printout bearing an ink stamp from the applicant's university, graduate school, or other issuing institution.

If you are unable to submit the original certificate because it cannot be reissued or for other reasons, please submit a notarized certificate certified by a public institution such as an embassy. Notarized certificates issued by notary offices in Japan are not acceptable.

There is no expiration date for certificates. Certificates obtained in the past may be submitted, provided that the information they contain is up to date.

Certificates written in Japanese, English, or Chinese will be accepted. If a certificate is written in another language, please submit a Japanese or English translation certified by a public institution such as an embassy.

When entering the names of universities, faculties, and departments in the "Educational Background" section of the Statement of Purpose, if the certificate is written in English, please translate the names into Japanese. If the certificate is written in Chinese, please convert the names into Japanese kanji. If a name contains characters that do not exist in Japanese kanji, translate it according to its meaning.

Example:

School of Foreign Languages → 外国語学部

旅游与历史文化学院 → 旅游与歴史文化学部

(2) Depending on the circumstances, you may be asked to submit additional documents.

(3) If the name written on your certificate differs from the name used at the time of application, please submit an official document proving that the two names refer to the same person.

(4) Applications may not be accepted if all required application documents are not complete within the application period.

(5) Inquiries regarding the application should be made on days other than Sundays, national holidays, and the following periods:

Saturdays between August 1 and September 20 (2026 and 2027)

August 11–20 (2026 and 2027)

December 26, 2026–January 6, 2027

(All dates are based on Japan Standard Time.)

(6) If any information in the application documents is found to be false or fraudulent, eligibility to take the entrance examination and/or admission will be revoked.

Procedures for TOEIC Public Test Score Confirmation Service

【STEP 1】 Log into the TOEIC Application Site

Enter your Login ID and password to log into the TOEIC Application Site.

TOEIC Application Site: <https://ms.toEIC.or.jp/Usr/Pages/Entry/Login.aspx>

【STEP 2】 TOEIC Application Site

Click the [大学・企業等へのスコア提出 (Click here to submit your score to universities, companies, etc.)] on the bottom right of [テスト結果 (Test Results)] on the top page of the TOEIC Application Site.

【STEP 3】 Select where to submit scores and which tests you are eligible for

Enter the application code (**Graduate School Admissions Division of Kansai University:(00015802)**) in the [提出先団体選択 (Select where to submit scores)], and click the [検索 (Search)] button. Select the test you wish to submit scores from in the [テスト種別選択 (Select which tests you are eligible for)], and click the [次へ (Next)] button.

【STEP 4】 Select the score you wish to submit

Select the score you wish to submit from the TOEIC Listening & Reading scores in Secure Program and click the [次へ (Next)] button.

【STEP 5】 Review the submission details, check the precautions and complete the submission

Please confirm the following:

- ・ Application code
- ・ Name of the organization to which the application is to be submitted
- ・ Score to be submitted
- ・ Precautions

Check the checkbox for agreement to precautions, and click the [提出する (Submit)] button.

You can check the submission history from the [スコア提出一覧 (Score Submission List)] in the [テスト結果一覧 (Test Results List)].