

**Application Guide for Doctor of Philosophy Degree Program,
Graduate School of Life Dentistry at Tokyo**

Special Program for International Students

Admission in October 2026/April 2027

The Nippon Dental University

Aims and Diplomacy

The Nippon Dental University Graduate School of Life Dentistry at Tokyo aims to contribute for the development of life dentistry and for improving the health and welfare of humankind by vigorously pursuing scientific research related to life dentistry grounded in independent spirit as the Nippon Dental University's school philosophy since the establishment. We also contribute to the objectives by fostering and training scientists with extensive knowledge and sophisticated self-reliant research abilities in relation to life dentistry and with pursuing cutting-edge research or create new academic disciplines, and by training excellent educators who have the ability to elicit students' originality, creativity, and future orientation, and highly skilled specialists who are capable of performing advanced dental treatment.

Candidates for application

Ph.D. program: A few special proposals from working students and from international students

Major subjects	Principal subjects
Basic dental sciences	Anatomy
	Histology
	Physiology
	Biochemistry
	Pathology
	Microbiology
	Pharmacology
	Oral Health
	Dental Materials Science
	Tissue Engineering & Regenerative Medicine
	Forensic Dentistry
Clinical dental sciences	Endodontics
	Removable Prosthodontics
	Crown & Bridge Prosthodontics
	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
	Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics
	Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology
	Pediatric Dentistry
	Dental Anesthesiology
	Periodontology
	Adhesive Dentistry
	Clinical Oral Rehabilitation
	Systemic-Health Related Preventive Medicine
	Tumor Science

N.B. Currently, applications for Clinical Oral Rehabilitation are not accepted.

Remark : Special Application from International Students

Citizens of other countries can advance their education by enrolling in the graduate school, and receiving lectures and research supervising.

Course term1

Standard term: 4 years

Requirements for program completion and conferring of degrees

1. Students must attend the Graduate School for the standard 4 years, take the courses by lectures, seminars, experiments and paper writing while obtaining at least 30 credits. After receiving the research supervising, they are able to receive the academic dissertation examination and final examination.
2. As required by the rules of the Graduate School of Life Dentistry at Tokyo, a doctor of philosophy degree (dentistry) will be conferred on students who complete the above-prescribed program.

Eligibility criteria for applicants

1. Persons who have graduated from a course of studies in medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine which is 6-year program (if under 6-year, contact us) at a university or college.
2. Persons who have completed an 18-year program of schooling abroad (the final course must be medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine).
3. Persons designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (1955 Ministry of Education, Science and Culture Bulletin No. 39).
 - 1) Persons who according to the old university ordinance (Imperial Edict No. 338 of 1918) completed a course of studies in medicine or dentistry in those schools and graduated from the school.
 - 2) Persons who in accordance with the Defense Agency Establishment Act (Law No. 164 of 1954) graduated from a National Defense Medical College.

- 3) Individuals, who have completed a master course, and who are eligible to receive a master degree, or who have been in a Ph.D 5-year program, for at least 2 years, have acquired 30 or more credits under the required research supervision in a graduate school or graduate course (including individuals who fall under Academic Degree Regulations Article 6, Clause 1 [Ministry of Education, Science and Culture Ministerial Ordinance No. 9 of 1953] before amendment of by a ministerial ordinance that partially amended the academic degree regulations [Ministry of Education, Science and Culture Ministerial Ordinance No. 29 of 1974]) , and also have been recognized as involving academic ability equal to or greater than individuals graduated from a university program of medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine .
- 4) Individuals who graduated from a college/university (except a program of medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine) and have been engaged in research for at least 2 years at a college/university, research institution, etc., after completing a 16-year program of schooling abroad, and have achieved the a research accomplishment the recognized as involving academic ability that is equal to or greater than that of individuals who have graduated from a university program of medicine, dentistry or veterinary medicine in a graduate school or graduate course.
4. Individuals who have been recognized by Nippon Dental University Graduate School of Life Dentistry at Tokyo as involving academic ability equal to or greater than that of the individuals graduated from a undergraduate program of medicine, dentistry, or veterinary medicine (6-year course) at a university.
5. Persons who are not Japanese citizens.
Applicants for clinical dentistry must have 1 or more year of clinical experience.

How to apply

After paying the entrance examination fee in advance, submit the prescribed documents to the application site.

Term for Application

Admission in October 2026 : August 3, 2026 to August 13, 2026

Admission in April 2027 : February 2, 2027 to February 10, 2027

Except Saturdays, Sundays, and National holidays.

In-person applications will be accepted from 9 am to 4 pm.

※ Applications must be submitted only after conferring with the expected supervisor for the major subject desired.

Place for Application

Educational and Student Affairs Department, Educational and Student Affairs Department,
Nippon Dental University Graduate School of Life Dentistry at Tokyo.

Application documents

- (1) Prescribed enrollment examination application form 2 copies
N.B. Applications can be made for up to a second-choice of major subject.
- (2) Portrait photograph 2 photographs
N.B. A full frontal upper body photograph measuring 5 cm high × 4 cm wide, taken within 3 months of the application, without a hat, with nothing in the background, must be affixed to the space for a photograph on the application form.
- (3) Transcript from the president of your graduating college/university 1 copy
N.B. Only transcripts that have been sealed closed at the source are acceptable.
- (4) College/university diploma 1 copy
- (5) Extract of family register or foreign resident registration card 1 copy
- (6) Medical examination report 1 copy
N.B. Submit a medical examination report (there is no specially prescribed format but must be in English or Japanese) that includes the following 4 items and has been prepared by a physician within 6 months prior to applying:
[1] visual acuity, [2] hearing acuity, [3] tuberculosis,
[4] any other diseases or abnormal findings
- (7) Document certifying payment of the entrance examination fee 1 copy
N.B. Refer to 'Documents to be submitted at the time of application' in 'p.5 Method of payment of the Entrance Examination Fee'.

(8) Submit the following documents in addition to application documents in (1) – (7) above, for exemption from the written test, document ⑥ is required.

- ① A statement of the reason for applying 1 copy
- ② Certification of information recorded on foreign resident registration ... 1 copy
N.B. A certification issued by the mayor of the municipality within the previous 3 months.
- ③ Copy of passport 1 copy
N.B. Copy of the page showing applicant's name, passport number, and attached portrait photograph
- ④ Personal reference guarantee 1 copy
- ⑤ Research history certificate (only if the applicant is affiliated with a research institution, etc.) 1 copy
- ⑥ Document certifying exemption from the written tests (described later) ... 1 copy
- ⑦ For clinical dentistry majors, submit summary of research history, clinical history, etc. 1 copy

Entrance examination fee

20,000 yen

Method of payment of the Entrance Examination Fee

• Payment method

Payment shall be made by bank transfer to the designated bank account.

(The applicant is responsible for any transfer fees.)

• Available methods for bank transfer (select one)

- 1) Internet banking
- 2) ATM
- 3) Over-the-counter transaction at a financial institution

• Bank Transfer Details

Beneficiary (Account Holder)	The Nippon Dental University (Nihon Shika Daigaku)
Beneficiary Address	The Nippon Dental University, School of Life Dentistry at Tokyo 1-9-20 Fujimi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8159, Japan
Name of Financial Institution	MUFG Bank, Ltd.
Branch Name	Kagurazaka Branch
Branch Address	3-7 Kagurazaka, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 162-0825, Japan
SWIFT / BIC Code	BOTKJPJT
Account Type	Ordinary Deposit
Account Number	0033765
Purpose of Remittance	Payment of the Entrance Examination Fee
Remitter's Name	Your full name as it appears on your bank account
Additional Instructions	Please include "KENTEIRYO" before the applicant's name in the remitter field. Example: KENTEIRYO NIHON SHIKAO

• Documents to be submitted at the time of application

- If payment is made via Internet banking :

A copy of the transaction record (must clearly show the recipient account, transfer amount, and remitter's name)

- If payment is made via ATM : A copy of the transaction receipt that certifies the transfer
- If payment is made at a financial institution counter : A copy of the transfer certificate

Examination items

Special Application from International Students

1. English language or Japanese language

N.B. Applicants are permitted to bring a Japanese-native language dictionary (applicants are not permitted bring any electronic dictionaries, dental dictionaries, etc., or similar items).

2. Interview

Applicants who meet one of the following conditions will be exempted from the written examinations:

- 1) Applicants who can provide proof of a score of at least 79 points on the TOEFL Internet-based test (iBT).
- 2) Applicants who can provide proof of Japanese-Language Proficiency Test by Japan Educational Exchanges and Services (JEES) status of N2 or more.
- 3) Applicants who have experienced schooling other than ESL schooling for 3 or more years in a country where the native language is English.

Date of the examinations

Year/Month/Day (Day of the week)	Admission Schedule	Time Schedule	Subject
August 27, 2026	Admission in October 2026	Meeting 9:20 am 9:30-11:00 am	Language (International students: English or Japanese)
		Starting at 2:00 pm	Interview
February 18, 2027	Admission in April 2027	Meeting 9:20 am 9:30-11:00 am	Language (International students: English or Japanese)
		Starting at 2:00 pm	Interview

Site of the examinations

The Nippon Dental University Graduate School of Life Dentistry at Tokyo

Announcement of successful applicants

Admission in October 2026 : September 8, 2026 4:00 pm

Admission in April 2027 : March 2, 2027 4:00 pm

Graduate School of Life Dentistry at Tokyo Main building, 1st floor Bulletin board in front of the General Office

N.B. Successful applicants must take enrollment procedures at the Educational Department or Student Department

Student payments

Payment	Amount	Remarks
Enrollment fee	200,000 yen	Only at the time of the enrollment
Tuition	550,000 yen	Every year
Scholarship fund contribution	6,500 yen	Only at the time of the enrollment
Student comprehensive insurance premium	8,000 yen	Every year
Grand total	764,500 yen	First year payment amount

Admission procedure

Admission in October 2026 :

Term : September 9, 2026 to September 16, 2026

Admission in April 2027 :

Term : March 3, 2027 to March 10, 2027

Procedures : Follow the “Admission procedure guide” provided to successful applicants.

Additional information

Student payments that have already been made will not be refunded for any reason.

Where to inquire

Educational/Student Affairs Office

The Nippon Dental University Graduate School of Life Dentistry

1-9-20 Fujimi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-8159 Japan

Tel: +81-3-3261-8311

Principal major subjects (Academic supervisor)	Research topics
Anatomy (Professor Masataka Sunohara)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Meso-scale anatomical analysis of vascular network patterning in the maxillofacial region 2. Analysis of molecular mechanisms in the vessel formation and angiogenesis process during tooth germ development 3. Analysis of structural changes in three-dimensional micromorphology during growth and development of the maxillary and mandibular bone
Histology (Professor Kenichiro Kikuchi)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Histochemistry research on embryology, differentiation and aging of the salivary gland 2. Molecular biological study on injury and recovery of the salivary gland 3. Analysis of mechanisms of Epithelial-mesenchymal Interactions in Oral tissue
Physiology (Professor Chikako Saiki)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Effect of oral and maxillofacial perception and/or motor activity on body functions 2. Taste sensation and the cognitive processing in human subjects 3. Research on physiological homeostasis ; influence of environmental factors on respiration, circulation and metabolism
Biochemistry (Professor Keitarou Saiki)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Analysis of signal transduction and gene transcription mechanisms in cancer tissue 2. Molecular biological analysis of keratinocyte differentiation and dedifferentiation mechanisms 3. Analysis of mechanisms related to the development and progression of non-neoplastic diseases 4. Molecular biological analysis on the pathogenetic factors of the causative agents of periodontitis
Pathology (Professor Yuuichi Soeno)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Multifaceted structural/functional analysis of oral cancer and mucosal lesions 2. Comparative pathological analysis of oral diseases in animal models 3. Molecular network analysis of maxillofacial development, regeneration, and congenital anomalies
Microbiology (Professor Yukihiro Takahashi)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research on the pathogenicity of oral streptococci in infectious endocarditis 2. Molecular biological analysis on the pathogenetic factors of the causative agents of chronic periodontitis 3. Molecular biological analysis on the pathogenetic factors of the causative agents of aggressive periodontitis
Pharmacology (Professor Takeo Tsutsui)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Functional analysis of stem cells 2. Development of tooth and dental pulp regeneration techniques 3. Investigation for the safety and efficacy of medicines
Oral Health (Professor Tomoko Tanaka) (Professor Katsuo Oshima)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research on oral biofilm for prevention of oral diseases 2. Research on dental health activities at each life stage 3. Research on socioeconomic approaches for preventive dentistry
Dental Materials Science (Professor Akikazu Shinya)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development and clinical application of 3D printing materials 2. Accuracy and clinical application of intraoral scanners 3. Development and clinical application of novel composite resin materials and adhesive resin cements 4. Establishment of evaluation standards and clinical application of CAD/CAM bridge materials 5. Basic research and clinical application of new dental materials

Principal major subjects (Academic supervisor)	Research topics
Tissue Engineering & Regenerative Medicine (Professor Taka Nakahara)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Isolation, characterization, and differentiation of multipotent stem cells derived from human teeth 2. Engineering of test-tube dental implants for regenerative therapy 3. Cell and molecular biology of tooth/periodontal development and regeneration
Forensic Dentistry (Professor Kaori Iwahara)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognition, prevention of physical abuse and neglect, and child care support 2. Personal dental identification 3. Disaster dentistry
Endodontics (Professor Takashi Okiji)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development and evaluation of endodontic equipment, instruments, and materials 2. Assessment of NiTi rotary root canal instrumentation and root canal obturation 3. Inflammation and repair processes in the dental pulp 4. Analysis of dental and jawbone morphogenesis and development
Removable Prosthodontics (Professor Yuka Sumita)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Relationship between oral health and general health 2. Relationship between prosthodontic treatment and oral function, general health 3. Development of the device to evaluate the oral function 4. Research for prosthodontic materials
Crown & Bridge Prosthodontics (Professor Harunori Gomi)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Clinical application of glass-fiber-reinforced hybrid resin restorative materials 2. Computer-supported examination, diagnosis, and restorative appliance system 3. Adhesion techniques and CAD/CAM esthetic restorations
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery (Professor Takafumi Satomi)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research of local invasion and metastasis of oral squamous cell carcinoma 2. Tissue regeneration program that uses growth factors and biomaterials 3. Development of a novel bone reconstruction procedure using 3D-printing techniques 4. Research and development of new tissue regeneration therapies from human dental pulp stem cells
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics (Professor Kazuhito Arai)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research on morphological characteristics of malocclusion 2. Biomechanical research in orthodontic appliances 3. Research on material properties of clear aligners
Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology (Professor Taisuke Kawai)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research on image diagnosis for maxillofacial region 2. Research related to radiation protection during radiological examinations 3. Research on image quality of the CBCT examination 4. Research on computer aided diagnosis in dentistry 5. Research on ultrasound-guided nerve ganglion block
Pediatric Dentistry (Professor Hiroyuki Karibe)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emotional response in children during dental treatment 2. Prevention of oral diseases in childhood 3. Dental development in children with systemic diseases
Dental Anesthesiology (Professor Katsuhisa Sunada)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research on the disposition and potency of local anesthetics 2. Application of adrenaline receptor agonists in the dental anesthesia field 3. Research on ambulatory anesthesia: Drugs, evaluation, techniques, etc.

Principal major subjects (Academic supervisor)	Research topics
Periodontology (Professor Yukihiko Numabe)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Research on the relationship between periodontal disease and systemic disease 2. Research on the effects of smoking on periodontal tissue 3. Development on the new examination for periodontal diseases 4. Epidemiological research on periodontal diseases 5. Application of LED and lasers to periodontal treatment 6. Research on the pathological condition improving factor for periodontal disease 7. Development of oral and gut microbiome-targeted therapies for periodontal disease
Adhesive Dentistry ()	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluation of the behavior of metal-free adhesive restorations in <i>in vivo</i> and <i>in vitro</i> environments 2. Development and evaluation of novel restoration methods and materials contributed to the next generation MID esthetic restorations 3. Comprehensive investigation of the innovative digital restoration system 4. Revitalization of bio-adhesion for the affinity of tooth substance
Systemic-Health Related Preventive Medicine (Professor Shigemasa Tani)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Preventive medicine approaches aimed at extending a healthy lifespan 2. Association between metabolic syndrome and systemic diseases 3. Relationship between oral function and arteriosclerosis cardiovascular disease 4. Pathophysiology of sleep apnea syndrome 5. Epidemiological research to explore the factors that lead to the development of lifestyle-related diseases
Tumor Science (Professor Kenichi Sakurai)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Study on changes in saliva volume and oral bacteria during cancer chemotherapy 2. Research on the relationship between molecular targeted drugs and oral diseases 3. Research on the relationship between check point inhibitors and oral diseases 4. Research on human anti-RANKL antibody and oral environment 5. Research on treatment of bone metastasis from cancer and osteonecrosis of the jaw

