

## **International Research and Training Fellowship Program at Showa University**

Showa University is a private, comprehensive medical university with 4 schools (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, and Nursing and Rehabilitation Sciences) and 4 research centers. It has 4 campuses located in Tokyo, Yokohama, and Fujiyoshida and independently owns and operates 8 hospitals and 2 clinics located throughout Tokyo and Yokohama. Since 1982, Showa University has funded a selective **International Research and Training Fellowship Program** designed for foreign-trained medical specialists (physicians, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, and others) and related researchers from around the world to spend 1 year at Showa University to receive further education in Japan. By developing a connection with these promising professional early in their career, Showa University hopes to lay the foundation for future collaboration when they become the next leaders in their institutions or departments.

### **Purpose of Program**

1. The purpose of this program is to allow:
  - A) Early-career medical professionals (doctors, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, and others) to study in a specific clinical department in one of Showa University's hospital and learn about the latest treatments and technology being used there.
  - B) Researchers to collaborate with a faculty member at Showa University and conduct research with the goal of future publication and/ or presentation of the results.
2. By participating in this international training and research program:
  - A) Fellows can return home and use their knowledge from Showa University to help advance medical care research in their home country.
  - B) Fellows can come to know about Showa University, with the hope that they continue to collaborate with the university throughout their career.

### **Eligibility**

Promising medical professional (physicians, dentists, pharmacists, nurses, and others) or related researcher who have already completed their degree (M.D., D.D.S., M.S./ Ph.D., etc.) and received their license, if applicable.

While there is no specific age requirement, this program is designed for early-career professionals.

### **Training Period**

1 year. In Japan, the academic year is from April 1<sup>st</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>. Showa University highly recommends that international fellows complete their training during this period. Fellows are expected to attend training every day, except for Japanese national holidays and weekends.

### **Quota**

12 spots are available throughout the year and are selective. To encourage diversity of our fellows, we generally do not accept more than 1 – 2 fellows from any one country.

## Activities for the Program

Due to Japanese law, international fellows are not allowed to provide treatment to patients during the program. Instead, most of the training program consists of observation of treatments and operations conducted at Showa University's hospitals. International fellows are also allowed to attend patient rounds, view relevant data and records, and attend department meetings, under the supervision of their faculty sponsor.

Researchers will be provided lab space and have access to the same equipment and facilities as any other researchers at Showa University.

## Expenses/ Housing

There are no application fees or any tuition fees. If accepted, Showa University also guarantees free housing to international fellows in the form of an international dormitory located inside the Hatanodai campus. However, housing is currently limited to 12 dormitory spots.

Fellows who receive a scholarship from Showa University are responsible for their utilities (gas, water, and electricity). International fellows are also responsible for all travel expenses (including airfare to/ from Japan and travel to/ from the hospital) and all food expenses.

## Scholarship

A monthly stipend of JPY 100,000 is available for fellows, if selected. Fellows are not eligible for this scholarship if they are already receiving any kind of scholarship from another group/ organization.

## Application Time

To ensure that their application is received on time and without complications, applicants should be aware of these important dates and try to follow this timeline:

**Mid-May:** Opening of application process (Application materials will be available online. More information below)

**By June 30<sup>th</sup>:** Submission of application materials to International Exchange Center.

**October 30<sup>th</sup>:** University selection committee meets and makes official decision of next year's fellows, housing and scholarships.

## Application Process

In order to be accepted into the program, applicants must find a department they are interested in at Showa University and have the department head agree to serve as their fellowship sponsor. Applicants are **not** required to have a fellowship sponsor by the time they submit their application. A list of departments that have hosted fellows in the past can be found on Showa University's International Exchange Center website ([http://www.showa-u.ac.jp/en/international/research\\_and\\_training\\_opportunities.html](http://www.showa-u.ac.jp/en/international/research_and_training_opportunities.html)).

**Additionally, after receiving their application, the International Exchange Center can work with applicants to help identify possible faculty and departments who might match with their interests and then facilitate communication with that faculty/ department.**

## Application Materials

Application materials are only available online

([http://www.showa-u.ac.jp/en/international/application\\_process\\_for\\_international\\_fellows.html](http://www.showa-u.ac.jp/en/international/application_process_for_international_fellows.html)) or through email ([int-exc@ofc.showa-u.ac.jp](mailto:int-exc@ofc.showa-u.ac.jp)). Please complete these materials **in English or Japanese** (unless specified) and then submit them to the International Exchange Center ([int-exc@ofc.showa-u.ac.jp](mailto:int-exc@ofc.showa-u.ac.jp)) at Showa University:

1. Application from international training fellow: Applicants must provide information about English or Japanese proficiency as well as 1 essay (500 words) about their achievements and motivation for attending this program. For proof of English or Japanese proficiency, scores from an English language examination (i.e. TOEFL, IELTS, TOEIC) or the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT). This is not required if the applicant's first language is English or Japanese.
2. Recommendation letter from home organization (ex: university or hospital): This should be from a current direct supervisor to evaluate the applicant's ability and should discuss the applicant's motivation and potential for future professional success.
3. Curriculum vitae: A detailed list of all higher education, work history, licenses/ certificates, and publications and presentations, along with a passport-size identification photograph (JPEG format; full face, without headwear (unless for religious purposes), taken during the last 3 months)
4. Proof of English or Japanese proficiency.
5. Copy of transcripts: A copy of official transcripts of scholastic records issued by all universities and/ or colleges attended. If the transcripts are in any language other than English, they must be translated and have an official seal certifying the translation.
6. Copy of professional license: A copy of all medical, dental, pharmacy, and/ or professional licenses obtained. If the license(s) are in any language other than English, they must be translated and have an official seal certifying the translation.
7. Copy of diploma or graduation certificate: A copy of university/ college diploma or graduate certificate for all institutions attended. If the diploma and/ or certificate is in any language other than English, it must be translated and have an official seal certifying the translation.

## Upon Acceptance

8. ID Photo: Please email another passport-size identification photograph. (JPEG format; full face, without headwear (unless for religious purposes), taken during the last 3 months) to the International Exchange Center([int-exc@ofc.showa-u.ac.jp](mailto:int-exc@ofc.showa-u.ac.jp))
9. Copy of passport. Please email scanned copy to the International Exchange Center ([int-exc@ofc.showa-u.ac.jp](mailto:int-exc@ofc.showa-u.ac.jp)).
10. Immunization records and chest X-ray: Upon acceptance, Showa University requires the following authorized immunization records from all international fellows: measles, mumps, rubella, and varicella. In addition to the immunizations listed, we required a chest x-ray reading result to certify that the fellow is negative for Tuberculosis. It is also recommended that fellows receive hepatitis B immunizations. Copies of these authorized medical records can be submitted to the International Exchange Center in an email attachment ([int-exc@ofc.showa-u.ac.jp](mailto:int-exc@ofc.showa-u.ac.jp)) upon acceptance to Showa University. **However, the original certificates or medical records should be submitted to the International Exchange Center upon arrival to Showa University.**