

Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society Ideas and Proposals Contest 2024 for Solving Social Issues Application Guidelines

1. Purpose and outline of the contest

In November 2021, Kyushu University formulated and announced "[Kyushu University VISION 2030](#)," which outlines the university's direction and policies for the next 10 years. The university has declared that it will contribute to social transformation by solving social issues and promoting DX (Digital Transformation) to realize the vision.

Kyushu University is the only university in Japan to have a "Department of Design," which designs and proposes new social systems, as well as a wide range of academic fields from natural sciences to humanities and social sciences. Taking advantage of this unique foundation not found at other universities, Kyushu University has established the "[Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society](#)" in April 2022 with the goal of creating the comprehensive knowledge necessary to solve social issues and contribute to the development of a sustainable society and a society in which people can realize various forms of happiness and well-being.

This contest was planned as part of the activities of the Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society, and is for young researchers and students to present their ideas and proposals for solving social issues. Today, there are various social issues in the world, such as energy problems, medical and health-related issues, and environmental and food-related issues, etc. Through the contest, we aim to disseminate to society at large the original ideas and processes of how young researchers and students at Kyushu University perceive and solve such issues, while relating them to their own research activities. Incentive rewards will be awarded to the winners whose ideas and proposals are judged to be outstanding.

Judging will be conducted in two stages: a preliminary screening based on documents and a final selection based on presentations. First, based on the documents and presentation videos submitted by applicants, faculty members

participating in the Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society will mainly conduct document reviews and determine the finalists. Subsequently, as a final round, you will give a presentation at the joint symposium of Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society & Data Driven Innovation Initiative held in September. The top winners will be determined by votes from judges and participants of the joint symposium.

2. Eligibility requirements

Young researchers and students affiliated with Kyushu University who are willing to conduct research activities that contribute to the realization of [Kyushu University VISION 2030](#), either as individuals or as a group.

Young Researchers Section:

Faculty and staff of the University (under 40 years of age at the end of the fiscal year)

Students Section:

Students enrolled in Kyushu University (including JSPS Postdoctoral Fellows, researchers who are not employed by the University)

* If you have any questions regarding whether you meet the eligibility criteria or about the application category, please contact us at "11. Contact Information" below for further clarification.

3. Application categories

In addition to the three entry points of Kyushu University's strengths (Decarbonization, Medicine and Health, and Environment and Food), ideas and proposals in areas that are expected to become new strengths for the university as Next Issues or that are Interdisciplinary are also eligible ("1) Decarbonization," "2) Medicine and Health," "3) Environment and Food," and "4) Next Issue").

4. Awards

The incentive rewards will be awarded to the person or group that achieves outstanding results as a result of the judging. For the winners from Students Section, those rewards should be used to contribute to their future academic activities.

Young Researchers Section

Excellence Award (for 1 winner): 500,000 yen

Encouragement Awards (for 3 winners): 300,000 yen

Students Section

Excellence Award (for 1 winner): 300,000 yen

Encouragement Awards (for 3 winners): 100,000 yen

The name, type, and number of recipients of the awards are subject to change (currently being coordinated with relevant departments within the university).

5. How to apply

Please submit the materials, etc. listed in 1) through 3) in the following manner.

◆Materials to be submitted, etc.

1) Entry sheet (in prescribed format: Excel 1 sheet)

Please provide the applicant's affiliation, name, and contact information, the title of the application, and if you are a student, the name and contact information of a faculty advisor who can give permission for this application.

2) Proposal (in prescribed format: PPT 5 pages max.)

Please explain what social issues you would like to solve and how you will solve them while relating them to your own research activities, and summarize your original ideas and process in no more than 5 pages of Microsoft PowerPoint (PPT). In addition to the PPT, please also submit a PDF file at the time of submission.

When preparing proposals, please be sure to communicate your ideas and proposals for solving social issues to people outside your field of

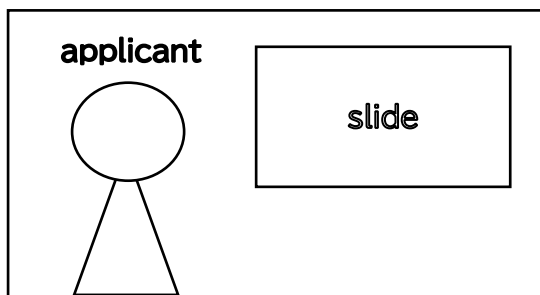
expertise. Please include ideas and proposals for solving social issues, their impact on society and future prospects, as well as ideas and plans for commercialization and social implementation, if any.

For students, even ideas and proposals come from not limited to research conducted as part of a graduation thesis, master's thesis, or doctoral dissertation, are acceptable. However, the academic supervisor will provide guidance from an academic perspective, even if the ideas are based on original thinking by the student.

3) A video summarizing your presentation in 3 minutes or less

Please use mp4 format and make sure that the applicant's image and proposal (slide material) are displayed.

(Image of video screen)



Videos must meet the following criteria

- Filmed on the horizontal
- Filmed from a static position
- Filmed from one camera angle

Video taken with a smartphone or similar device is acceptable, but please make sure that the video and audio are clearly recorded.

Presentation time is limited to three minutes; if the presentation exceeds three minutes, the applicant will be disqualified.

The three minutes of audio must be continuous (no sound edits or interruptions are allowed).

The addition of props (costumes, instruments, lab equipment, animated backgrounds, etc.) to the video is prohibited.

They will not be judged on the quality of their videos or their ability to edit them.

***Notes**

The documents may be submitted in either Japanese or English.

Please use the following file names: "Name (affiliation/grade/position)_Entry Sheet", "Name (affiliation/grade/position)_Proposal", and "Name (affiliation/grade/position)_Video".

(Example: Taro Kyushu University (Engineering, D3)_Entry Sheet.xls)

(Example: Taro Kyushu University (Engineering, D3)_Proposal.pptx)

(Example: Taro Kyushu University (Engineering, D3)_Proposal.pdf)

(Example: Taro Kyushu University (Engineering, D3)_Video. mp4)

◆Submission address

E-mail: vision-event@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp

◆Submission deadline

Friday, July 19, 2024

6. Preliminary Round (document review)

1) Subject to review

Documents to be submitted as described in 5.

2) Members of Evaluation

Several faculty members of the Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society.

3) Perspectives of Evaluation

A. The ideas or proposals are in line with the contents of application categories , 1) Decarbonization, 2) Medicine and Health, 3) Environment and Food and 4) Next Issue.

B. The applicant has originality in the social issues they have identified and the methods of solving them.

*We particularly value this in the Students Section.

- C. The concept of the background, purpose, methodology, and expected results of the idea or proposals is expressed in a concrete and easy-to-understand manner.
 - * We particularly value this in the Young Researchers Section.
- D. The ideas or proposals are expected to have a significant impact on society.
- E. The presentation is clear and appropriately worded so that it can be understood by those outside of your field of expertise.

*The screening process and content will not be disclosed.

7. Final Round (presentation judging)

Date: Tuesday, September 3, 2024, 13:20-14:40 (tentative)

Venue: INAMORI Center, Ito Campus

*To be held within the joint symposium of Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society & Data Driven Innovation Initiative.

*The final round will be streamed online and archived.

*We are planning for about 2 to 4 participants per category to take part in the final round.

1) Subject to review

3-minute presentation (using a screen) and 5-minute Q&A session with the judges regarding the social problem that the applicant wishes to solve and the details of the research (including the concept), ideas, process, and impact on society that will be used to solve the problem.

2) Members of Evaluation

Several faculty members of the Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society, and participants of the joint symposium of Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society & Data Driven Innovation Initiative.

3) Perspectives of Evaluation

- Whether they can present their ideas and proposals in a clear and understandable manner. Also, whether they can appropriately respond to questions from the judges.
- The ideas or proposals are expected to have a significant impact on society.

4) Results of Evaluation

The results will be announced and the awards will be presented on the day of the final round.

8. Announcement of results and Awards (tentative)

Date: Tuesday , September 3, 2024, 16:55-17:05 (tentative)

Venue: INAMORI Center, Ito Campus

*To be held within the joint symposium of Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society & Data Driven Innovation Initiative.

* The awards ceremony will be streamed online and archived.

*The winners may be asked to present their ideas and proposals at a later date at the Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society Annual Meeting.

9. Schedules

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|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| (1) Early June | Call for applications |
| (2) July 19 | Applications close |
| (3) August | Preliminary Round (document review) |
| (4) September 3 | Final Round (presentation judging) and awards |

10. Others

◆Precautions for application

- The submitted research must be the applicant's own original work. In the case of students, we may ask your faculty advisor to confirm whether or not the submitted research is your original idea.
- We may contact applicants to inquire about the submitted research.

◆Rights Regulations

- We may publicize and publish the submitted ideas(proposal) on our website, in reports, or in various other media. In such cases, the applicant's information (affiliation, grade, job title, etc.) may be disclosed.
- The final round and awards ceremony will be streamed online and archived.

- Photos of the presentations and winners taken by the organizers at the finals and awards ceremony may be used on the website, in reports, or in various other media.
- Please understand that the ideas(proposal) submitted may be used as reference materials for new project planning, etc. at the Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society.
- In the event that it becomes necessary to make arrangements for matters other than those listed in the application guidelines, the decision will be made at the discretion of the Integrated Initiative for Designing Future Society.
- If the submitted idea is identical or very similar to previously published research, or if it infringes on the intellectual property rights of a third party (including cases of infringement after submission), the award may be revoked even after the award results have been announced.

◆Handling of personal information

- Personal information will be used to receive and inquire about application documents, to notify the results of judging, and for other matters deemed necessary for the business of this contest, as well as to provide information on other Kyushu University business. In principle, personal information will not be used for any other purpose or provided to any third party without the consent of the applicant, except as required by law.

11. Contact information

Social Engagement Division, Planning Department, Kyushu University

TEL: 092-802-2447, 2448

E-mail: vision-event@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp