

December 27, 2024

The Kumamoto University Female Researcher Awards in FY 2024

Kumamoto University is pleased to announce the Female Researcher Awards. The awards recognize excellent research achievements of women researchers in Kumamoto Prefecture.

The “Female Researcher Award” and the “Young Female Researcher Award” are intended to further acknowledge and support the outstanding work of these women researchers.

Please see the attachment for details on prerequisites.

We are looking forward to numerous self-applications of female researchers. Furthermore, we would highly appreciate if you recommended suitable candidates in your department or institute.

Best regards

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Office Lead
Vice Director Kurata Kayo

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(Attachment)

Kumamoto University Female Researcher Awards: Application Guidelines

1. Eligibility Criteria for the Awards

• Female Researcher Award

This award recognizes female researchers who have demonstrated exceptional achievements in the fields of humanities and social sciences, natural sciences, or life sciences (hereinafter collectively referred to as “each field”) and are regarded as exemplary role models.

• Young Female Researcher Award

This award is intended for female researchers, excluding those holding positions equivalent to that of a professor, who exhibit remarkable potential for future success.

Note: Past recipients are not eligible to apply.

2. Application Deadline

24th January 2025

3. Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must meet one of the following criteria:

- (1) Female researchers, including graduate students, currently conducting research at institutions of higher education, public institutions, or companies within Kumamoto Prefecture, including Kumamoto University.
- (2) Female researchers, including graduate students, who have graduated from or completed their studies at Kumamoto University and are presently engaged in research at institutions of higher education, public institutions, or companies located outside Kumamoto Prefecture.

4. Award Details

One award will be conferred for each category within each field.

5. Application Procedure

- (1) Applicants are required to complete the prescribed application form and submit it via email in PDF format, accompanied by the original research paper(s) listed in the “Details of Research Application” section. (For book submissions, please contact the office in advance.)
- (2) Applicants who have experienced interruptions in their research activities due to life events are encouraged to include this information in the biography section of the application form. Such circumstances will be considered during the selection process.
- (3) The recommendation letter is optional. If provided, the letter will be used as supplementary material in the evaluation process.

6. Selection Process

The selection process will be conducted by the University’s Selection Committee.

7. Selection Criteria

Please refer to the attached Judging Criteria.

8. Award Ceremony and Research Presentation

• The award ceremony : 24th March 2025

(Applicants will be notified of the selection results via email in late February 2025.)

• Award recipients will be required to deliver a presentation on their research achievements during the award ceremony. Specific instructions will be provided to the awardees in due course.

Details of the Research Presentation:

Topic: Research themes outlined in the application.

Duration: 20 minutes.

Content: Introduction to the research field, future research directions, and other pertinent aspects.

9. Additional Information

(1) Inquiries regarding the selection results will not be entertained.

(2) The names and research accomplishments of the award recipients will be made publicly available.

(3) All personal information submitted as part of the application will be treated with strict confidentiality and used solely for the purposes of the selection process.

(4) Submitted documents will not be returned under any circumstances.

(5) Additional documentation may be requested if deemed necessary.

10. Submission and Inquiries

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Office, Kumamoto University

Phone/Fax:096-342-3281

E-mail: diversity@jimu.kumamoto-u.ac.jp

Attachment: Judging Criteria

Evaluate each item on a scale of 5 points based on the following four criteria.

Judging Criteria		Specific points of view
1	Conformity to the purpose of this project	-Female Researcher Award Suitability to be recommended as a role model -Young Female Researcher Award Potential for future success
2	Research Activity	Quality of the research content, Positioning, Perspective and Originality of the research within the relevant field.
3	Research and Teaching Achievements, Artistic Activities, etc.	Research achievements, Awards, Patents and utility models, Number of publications, books and edited volumes, Number of keynote lectures, conference presentations, Research grants and other competitive funding achievements, Teaching achievements and awards, Other published works, etc.
4	Contribution to Society and Science	Academic society activities, Participation in committees at the municipal, prefectural, national levels, Other academic and social activities

Scoring Criteria

1. Poor
2. Slightly Poor
3. Average (Standard Score)
4. Excellent
5. Outstanding