

# FACT SHEET 2026/2027

(updated: 2026/03/18)



## KOBE UNIVERSITY Faculty/Graduate School of Law Student Exchange Programme

### INSTITUTION

Name of Institution	Faculty of Law Graduate School of Law
Key Contact	Kazuko Okano (Ms.) - International Exchange Coordinator
Email Address	<a href="mailto:law-kyomu-inter@office.kobe-u.ac.jp">law-kyomu-inter@office.kobe-u.ac.jp</a>
Website	<a href="https://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/index.html">https://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/index.html</a> <a href="http://www.law.kobe-u.ac.jp/english/">http://www.law.kobe-u.ac.jp/english/</a>
Postal Address	2-1 Rokkodai-cho Nada-ku Kobe Hyogo 657-8501 JAPAN

### ADMISSION

Nomination Deadline	For 2026 Fall Semester (October – March) <b>10th April, 2026 (Fri)</b> For 2027 Spring Semester (April - September) <b>10th October, 2026 (Sat)</b>
Application Deadline	For 2026 Fall Semester (October - March) <b>30th April, 2026 (Thu)</b> For 2027 Spring Semester (April to September) <b>30th October, 2026 (Fri)</b>
Eligibility	Applicants must remain enrolled and continue paying tuition to their home institution during the exchange period. Applicants must return to their home institution after the exchange period to continue their studies there. Therefore, applicants whose expected graduation from their home institution falls within the periods listed below are not eligible. For one semester application    October 2026 - end March 2027 For two semesters application    October 2026 - end September 2027
Nomination Procedure	Applicants for the exchange programme must be nominated by their home institutions prior to proceeding to the application process. The nomination sheet must be sent to Kobe university by the nomination deadline.
Application Procedure	Once the nomination has been verified and accepted by Kobe, applicants will be notified by email and invited to proceed with the application. Verified (nominated) applicants should send the following documents as email attachments to the International Exchange Coordinator by the application deadline.    Email: <a href="mailto:law-kyomu-inter@office.kobe-u.ac.jp">law-kyomu-inter@office.kobe-u.ac.jp</a> <b>1. Application Form</b> Please make sure to attach a digital photo directly to the form. <b>2. Academic Transcript</b> Please make sure to submit the latest academic transcript in English issued by your home institution. <b>3. Digital Photo</b> Digital photo taken within 6 months prior to submission. PDF format, front-facing, head-and-shoulders, with no background

	<p><b>4. Copy of the Passport ID Page</b> The expiry date must be later than the end of the exchange period.</p> <p><b>5a. Certificate of English Language Level if available (not compulsory)</b> Kobe University will accept only IELTS and TOEFL certificates.</p> <p><b>5b. Certificate of Japanese Language Level if available (not compulsory)</b> Kobe University will accept only JLPT certificate.</p>
Others (CoE application)	<p>Certificate of Eligibility (CoE) In order to apply for a student visa, applicants are required to apply for a Certificate of Eligibility (CoE) beforehand.</p>
	<p>Once the application documents above have been verified, applicants will receive an email from Kobe University containing the URL for the Kobe University CoE online application system. Once applicants complete the required data entry and it has been confirmed, Kobe University will submit the CoE application documents to the Immigration Service Agency of Japan on their behalf.</p> <p>When the application is approved, a CoE number will be issued by the Immigration Service Agency of Japan and notified to applicants through Kobe University by email .</p> <p>Applicants may then apply for a student visa using the CoE number. (Printed CoEs have not been used since 31 March 2023.)</p> <p>Documents required to be uploaded for the online CoE application are:</p> <p><b>-Digital photo</b> It must be taken within 6 months prior to the CoE application. It must strictly meet the specifications provided by the Immigration Service Agency of Japan; otherwise, the application may be rejected. <a href="https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/status/photo_info_00002.html">https://www.moj.go.jp/isa/applications/status/photo_info_00002.html</a> -</p> <p><b>Copy of the passport ID page</b></p> <p><b>-Financial statement</b> The financial statement consists of documents proving that the applicant has sufficient financial recourses to cover all expenses while studying at Kobe University. The required amount is equivalent to a minimum balance of JPY 100,000 per month (JPY 600,000 for one semester, or JPY 1,200,000 for 2 semesters). The following documents are acceptable (1. or 2. or 3.). If one document alone doesn't meet the required amount, a combination of documents (e.g., 1. and 3.) is also acceptable.</p> <p><u>1. Applicant's own bank balance certificate</u> An official bank balance certificate with the bank's seal, issued for the applicant's own account, in either JPY or USD. If the account is in a local currency, it should be converted to one of these currencies, with the exchange rate used clearly indicated.</p> <p><u>2. Supporter's bank balance certificate</u> An official bank balance certificate with the bank's seal, issued for the supporter's own account, in either JPY or USD, If the account is in a local currency, it should be converted to one of these currencies, with the exchange rate used clearly indicated.</p> <p><u>3. Scholarship certificate</u> A copy of an official certificate confirming that the applicant will receive a scholarship or grant while studying at Kobe University. A scholarship only covers the tuition of the home institution shall not be considered sufficient.</p>

## SCHEDULE

<b>Application schedule for 2026 2nd Semester (Fall) October 2026 to March 2027</b>	
2026/4/10	Nomination Deadline The confirmation of nominations will be sent to the home institution as soon as it is verified, and applicants will receive the forms and explanatory notes for the official application, as email attachments.
2026/4/30	Application Deadline
June – July 2026	Once application is approved at the Faculty Committee Meeting, a “Letter of Acceptance” will be issued for each accepted student and sent to their home institution. (This document will be required for the student visa application.) Applicants should proceed with the online CoE application as soon as they receive the notice from Kobe University.
Mid August 2026	The CoE number will be notified to applicants by the Immigration Service Agency of Japan by email. Once applicants receive their CoE number, they can apply for a student visa at their local Japanese Embassy.
Mid September 2026	Announcement of Dormitory Allocation
Mid September 2026	Online Orientation
End September 2026	Dormitory check-in
1st week October 2026	Course Registration and the Beginning of 2nd Semester (Fall)
<b>Application schedule for 2027 1st Semester (Spring) March 2027 to September 2027</b>	
2026/10/10	Nomination Deadline The confirmation of nominations will be sent to the home institution as soon as it is verified, and applicants will receive the forms and explanatory notes for the official application, as email attachments.
2026/10/30	Application Deadline
December – January 2027	Once application is approved at the Faculty Committee Meeting, a “Letter of Acceptance” will be issued for each accepted student and sent to their home institution. (This document will be required for the student visa application.) Applicants should proceed with the online CoE application as soon as they receive the notice from Kobe University.
Mid February 2027	The CoE number will be notified to applicants by the Immigration Service Agency of Japan by email. Once applicants receive their CoE number, they can apply for a student visa at their local Japanese Embassy.
Mid March 2027	Announcement of Dormitory Allocation
Mid March 2027	Online Orientation
End March 2027	Dormitory Check-in
2nd week April 2027	Course Registration and the Beginning of 1st Semester (Spring)

## ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Academic Calendar	<a href="http://www.law.kobe-u.ac.jp/english/current/academiccalendar/">http://www.law.kobe-u.ac.jp/english/current/academiccalendar/</a>
1st Semester (Spring)	Early April to End September (Final examination Early August)
2nd Semester (Fall)	Early October to End March (Final examination Early February)
Language	Japanese and/or English
Language Requirement	There is no official language requirement, however, students are expected to have sufficient English and/or Japanese proficiency to follow the courses.
Academic Load	All international students including exchange students must take at least 10 lesson hours per week (equivalent to 5 courses) in accordance with the Immigration Regulations of Japan.

<p>Courses and Class Periods</p>	<p>Courses are offered by semester, comprising 16 weeks including the final examination.  One course credit is awarded for courses that meet for one period per week, and two course credits are awarded for courses that meet for two periods per week.  One period is 90 minutes (counted as 120 minutes including study time).</p>
<p>Courses/Credits</p>	<p>Courses do not include the seminars.  Course grades and earned credits are announced at the end of each academic semester. To earn one course credit students must complete a total 45 hours of study and a final grade between S and C (see below). This total includes individual study time for class preparation and review activities.</p>
<p>Grading System</p>	<p>5-level grading system:  S (90-100), A (80-89), B (70-79), C (60-69), and F (below 59: fail)</p>
<p>Courses and Registration</p>	<p>Students must submit a pre-registration form before enrollment and after the Academic Affairs Section verifies it they may submit the official registration form only after enrollment.  « Important Notice »  -Master’s students cannot register Bachelor’s level courses, and Bachelor’s students cannot register Master’s level courses.  -Exchange students are not allowed to audit any courses without prior permission.  -Learning Agreement will be signed by the coordinator only after the registration has been confirmed.  <b>1. Courses taught in English - Faculty/Graduate School of Law</b>  <a href="http://www.law.kobe-u.ac.jp/english/current/syllabus/">http://www.law.kobe-u.ac.jp/english/current/syllabus/</a>  exchange students can register for all courses without permission.  <b>2. Courses taught in English and Japanese - all Faculties/Graduate Schools</b>  <a href="https://kym22-web.ofc.kobe-u.ac.jp/campusy/">https://kym22-web.ofc.kobe-u.ac.jp/campusy/</a>  ©Exchange students are required to check with the Academic Affairs Section during pre-registration to confirm whether the courses they wish to register from a. and/or b. below are open to exchange students. After that they must obtain individual permission from each lecturer by attending the first day of classes.  a. courses taught in Japanese of Faculty/Graduate School of Law  b. courses taught in English/Japanese outside the Faculty/Graduate School of Law  ©Exchange students are not permitted to register for courses listed in a. and b. below. Furthermore exchange students are strictly prohibited from auditing these courses under any circumstances.  a. all courses in the Professional Degree Programme (専門職学位)  b. seminars (演習) in all Faculties/Graduate Schools excluding the seminars of the Japanese courses offered by CGE below.  <b>3. Japanese Language Programme – CGE (Center of Global Engagement)</b>  April 2026 name changed GEC (Global Education Center) → CGE  <a href="https://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/study_in_kobe/admission/exchange_program/courses_programs.html">https://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/study_in_kobe/admission/exchange_program/courses_programs.html</a>  3 types of courses are available,  a. Integrated Japanese Course (総合日本語)  b. Japanese Language and Japanese Studies Class (日本語・日本事情)  c. Intensive Japanese Course (集中日本語) — developed for MEXT (Japanese government) scholarship students and regular students, exchange students — only on availability basis c. is not available from October 2025 onwards.</p>

	<p>(以下、日本語版) 履修登録の手順は、入学前に【仮登録】、教務グループの確認を経て入学後に【本登録】です。 《注意事項》 - 大学院生は学部科目を、学部生は大学院科目を履修登録することはできません。 - 神戸大学ではいずれの科目も許可を得ずに聴講することはできません。 - Learning Agreement は本登録完了後にコーディネーターが署名します。</p> <p>1. 英語開講科目 - 法学部/法学研究科 <a href="http://www.law.kobe-u.ac.jp/english/current/syllabus/">http://www.law.kobe-u.ac.jp/english/current/syllabus/</a> 全科目事前許可なしで履修登録可能</p> <p>2. 英語・日本語開講科目 - 全学部/全研究科 <a href="https://kym22-web.ofc.kobe-u.ac.jp/campusy/">https://kym22-web.ofc.kobe-u.ac.jp/campusy/</a> ★下記 a. b.で履修を希望する科目があれば必ず仮登録の時点で教務グループに履修可能科目か確認し、可能な場合は第1回目授業に出席し担当教員から登録許可を得ること</p> <p>a. 法学部/法学研究科の日本語開講科目 b. 他学部/他研究科の英語および日本語全開講科目</p> <p>★下記 a. b.は履修登録不可、またいかなる場合も聴講不可</p> <p>a. 専門職学位(Professional Degree Program)の全科目 b. 全学部/全研究科の全演習科目(Seminar) CGE の日本語科目の演習のみ可</p> <p>3. 日本語学習プログラム - CGE (グローバルエンゲージメントセンター) 2026年4月組織名称変更 GEC(グローバル教育センター)→CGE <a href="https://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/study_in_kobe/admission/exchange_program/courses_programs.html">https://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/study_in_kobe/admission/exchange_program/courses_programs.html</a> 3種類のコースがあります</p> <p>a. 総合日本語 (Integrated Japanese Course) b. 日本語・日本語事情(Japanese Language and Japanese Studies) c. 集中日本語 (Intensive Japanese Course) 国費留学生や正規生対象、定員に満たない場合のみ交換留学生も登録可能 c.は2025年10月～登録不可</p>
Research and Thesis Assistance	Kobe University will not provide assistance to exchange students.

## OTHERS

Accommodation (Student Dormitories)	<p>Kobe University has 5 Residential Facilities located within Kobe City, and they are also available to international students. Please apply through the application documents. Exchange students are given priority; however their requested location cannot be guaranteed. The final allocation will be announced about one month before expected arrival in Japan. Only single-occupancy rooms are available for exchange students. <a href="http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/campuslife/housing/accommodation.html">http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/campuslife/housing/accommodation.html</a> Hakuo is no longer accepting the application (2026～)</p>
Visa Application	<p>Student visa applications must be made individually by each applicant at the Japanese embassy or Consulate General in their country of residence. Applications should be made as soon as they receive the CoE number and the Letter of Acceptance, and these documents must be presented at the time of application. Visas cannot be obtained after arriving in Japan.</p>
Tuition	<p>No tuition fee for Kobe University based on reciprocity in the Student's Exchange Agreement (students will pay regular annual tuition fee to their home institutions.)</p>

Estimated Living Cost	<a href="http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/campuslife/life/index.html">http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/campuslife/life/index.html</a>
Insurance	<p><a href="http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/campuslife/life/index.html">http://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/campuslife/life/index.html</a></p> <p>There are 4 kinds of insurance all international students <b>MUST</b> enroll in.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>National Health Insurance</b> = 国民健康保険 KokuminKenkoHoken The National Health Insurance System in Japan is a system to reduce individuals' medical costs. International students who reside in Japan must join the National Health Insurance scheme. [approximately JPY2,000/month].</li> <li>2. <b>Personal Accident Insurance for Students Pursuing Education and Research (PAS)</b> = 学研災 Gakkensai PAS is a nation-wide mutual aid system for students to provide insurance for physical injuries caused by accidents during regular courses, official programmes, and extracurricular activities on and off campus. All students are required to join this insurance for which an application form must be submitted at time of matriculation. [approximately JPY1,000/year]</li> <li>3. <b>Comprehensive Insurance for Students Lives Coupled with PAS for International Students</b> = 学研災付帯学総 Gakkensai Futaigakuso This insurance offers expanded coverage for international students. Kobe University students requires all international students to join this insurance together with 2. above.</li> <li>4. <b>Inbound Medical Assistance Service (IMAS)</b> IMAS provides medical assistance to international students, referrals to suitable medical facilities, telephone consultation. telephone interpretation (various languages) during hospital visits etc. Kobe University students requires all international students to join this insurance</li> </ol>
Vaccination	<p>Kobe University has implemented the Measles and Rubella Registration Policy to prevent a possible outbreak of measles and rubella on campus, and all newly-enrolled Kobe University students must submit a certificate demonstrating inoculation and an antibody test against measles and rubella at the medical examination held at Kobe University.</p> <p>Those who do not submit such a certificate will be required to take an antibody test in Japan</p> <p><a href="https://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/sites/default/files/doc-page/2025-04/en2025guidebook.pdf">https://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/sites/default/files/doc-page/2025-04/en2025guidebook.pdf</a></p> <p>Please refer Page 15 (③ Control and Prevention of Infectious Diseases) of the GUIDE BOOK FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS KOBE UNIVERSITY 2025</p>