

2026 World Citizenship Education (WCE) Graduate Student Research Support Program

The Graduate School of Education, Kyoto University, with support from the Office for Global Education, will implement the WCE Graduate Student Research Support Program as part of the WCE Project.

The main purpose of this program is to support the research activities of graduate students affiliated with the Graduate School of Education who are working on research topics related to world citizenship education. Research related to WCE includes a wide range of themes concerning contemporary society and education, such as multicultural coexistence, international understanding, migration, social inequality, environmental issues, social and educational changes and challenges brought about by AI, well-being, peace, human rights, citizenship, local communities, and educational practice. For details, please visit the project website:

<https://worldcitizenship.educ.kyoto-u.ac.jp>

Even if you do not currently position your own research explicitly as WCE, your research may still be related to the aims of this program if it engages with issues in contemporary society, the public nature of education, human development, multicultural coexistence, sustainability, social inclusion, and related themes. We also welcome applications from graduate students who wish to further develop their research from these perspectives. We encourage you to consider applying after carefully discussing the relevance of your research to this program with your supervisor.

1 . Purpose of the Program

The WCE Project was launched within the Graduate School of Education to promote research, education, and practice related to world citizenship education. In contemporary society, issues deeply connected to education—such as globalization, climate change, social inequality, migration and multiculturalization, digitalization, and the development of AI—are becoming increasingly important.

Education is not something that is completed solely within schools or educational systems. It is closely connected to social change, people's values, cultural diversity, environmental issues, and technological innovation. From this perspective, WCE can serve as one important foundation for current and future research in education.

This program supports graduate students affiliated with the Graduate School of Education in identifying the relationship between their own research themes and world citizenship education,

and in further developing their research. Through this program, we also aim to build an academic community of graduate students and faculty members who are interested in WCE.

2. Eligible Research Topics

This program covers a wide range of research topics related to WCE. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Philosophical and theoretical research on world citizenship, citizenship, and publicness
- Research on multicultural coexistence, international understanding, and intercultural education
- Research on migration, minorities, and social inclusion
- Research on social inequality, disparities, poverty, and educational opportunities
- Research on environmental issues, climate change, and sustainability
- Research on well-being, mental health, and quality of life
- Research on peace, human rights, citizenship, and democracy
- Research on local communities, communities, and publicness
- Research on AI, digitalization, technological innovation, and their relationship with education and society
- Research on educational practice, school education, social education, and lifelong learning
- Other research that examines issues in contemporary society and education from the perspective of world citizenship education

3. Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following conditions:

- Be enrolled in a master's program or doctoral program at the Graduate School of Education, Kyoto University, in the 2026 academic year,
- Be conducting research that is considered to be related to world citizenship education or related fields
- If selected, be willing to participate actively, to the extent possible, in events and activities related to the WCE Project

- Be able to apply after obtaining confirmation from their academic advisor

4 . Support Provided

Selected applicants will receive support for expenses necessary for their research activities, based on their research plan and budget plan.

- Basic support amount: Up to 50,000 yen per person
- Maximum amount: Up to 70,000 yen may be provided if the need is recognized based on the research plan and budget plan
- Expected number of selected applicants in AY 2026: Up to 15 students

However, the number of selected applicants and the amount of support may be adjusted depending on the budget situation and the number of applications. The requested amount may not necessarily be approved in full.

5 . Examples of Eligible Expenses

The support funds may be used for purposes directly necessary for carrying out the submitted research plan. This program is NOT intended simply to subsidize transportation expenses or travel expenses for academic conferences; rather, it is intended to support research activities themselves that are related to world citizenship education.

Examples of eligible expenses include:

- Expenses necessary for conducting surveys and fieldwork
- Expenses necessary for interviews, observations, and collection of materials
- Purchase of books, materials, literature, teaching materials, and other items necessary for research
- Honoraria or gifts for research collaborators
- Expenses related to data collection, transcription, translation, and assistance with analysis
- Other expenses recognized as directly necessary for implementing the research plan

When using the funds, applicants must follow the accounting rules of Kyoto University and the Graduate School of Education. If there are any questions about whether a particular expense is eligible, applicants should consult their academic advisor and the relevant administrative office in advance.

6. Management of Funds

The support funds provided through this program will not be allocated directly to the selected students.

The research funds for selected students will be allocated to their academic advisors and executed under the management of those advisors. Therefore, before applying, applicants must consult their academic advisor in advance regarding their intention to apply for this program and their budget plan.

After selection, applicants should use the funds appropriately in accordance with their research plan while consulting with their academic advisor. Final responsibility for the use of funds will be confirmed under the management of the academic advisor in accordance with the university's accounting rules.

7. Expectations for Selected Applicants

Selected applicants are, to the extent possible, expected to participate actively in the following activities as members of the academic community of the WCE Project:

- To be aware of the relationship between their own research and world citizenship education, and to deepen the social and educational significance of their research
- To participate actively, in lectures, research meetings, academic days, community visits, and other events organized or co-organized by the WCE Project
- To present their research outcomes or research progress at the end-of-year reporting session
- To use the support funds appropriately in accordance with their research plan and, while consulting with their academic advisor, execute the funds in accordance with the accounting rules of Kyoto University and the Graduate School of Education
- To cooperate in disseminating the activities and outcomes of the WCE Project
- To deepen exchange with graduate students and faculty members from different fields and with different research interests through the WCE Project

This program is not merely a form of support for individual research expenses. It is implemented as part of an effort to build an academic community in which graduate students interested in world citizenship education can learn from one another and further develop their research.

8. Selection Criteria

In reviewing application documents, the following points will be considered comprehensively:

- Whether the research plan is clearly described
- Whether the relationship between the research topic and WCE or related fields is explained
- Whether the need for support from this program is demonstrated
- Whether the budget plan is appropriate in light of the research objectives
- Whether the applicant is willing to participate actively in WCE-related events after selection
- Whether confirmation from the academic advisor has been obtained

Selection will be made through a comprehensive assessment of the relevance to the aims of the WCE Project, the feasibility of the research plan, and the need for support, while taking into account differences in research fields and affiliated divisions.

9. Schedule

The schedule for AY 2026 is planned as follows:

- Application period begins: Friday, June 19, 2026
- Application deadline: Tuesday, July 7, 2026, 5PM
- Announcement of results: Mid-July 2026
- Start of support: Late July 2026
- End-of-year reporting session: Late February to mid-March 2027

Detailed dates will be announced by individual email once they have been finalized.

10. Application Procedure

Applicants should complete the designated application form and submit it by the specified method.

- Document to be submitted: Application Form for the WCE Graduate Student Research Support Program
- How to obtain the application form: Download from the News section of the WCE Project website (https://worldcitizenship.educ.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/home_en/)
- Submission method: Please complete the application form, convert it to PDF format, and submit it as an email attachment.

- Submission address: The WCE Project Team (world.citizenship.edu@mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp)
- Please be sure to use the following format for the email subject line:
[WCE Student Research Support Application] Name (*Example: [WCE Student Research Support Application] Taro Kyoto*)
- Application deadline: **Tuesday, July 7, 2026, 5:00 PM**

Before applying, applicants must consult their academic advisor regarding their intention to apply for this program and their budget plan. The application form is expected to include a section for confirmation by the academic advisor.

11. Procedures After Selection

After selection, research support will proceed as follows:

- Notification of selection results
- Confirmation regarding allocation of funds to the academic advisor
- Start of fund use based on the research plan
- Participation in WCE-related events
- Sharing of research progress as necessary
- Presentation of research outcomes or progress at the end-of-year reporting session

Selected applicants may be asked to cooperate in exchange and information sharing within the WCE Project according to the progress of their research activities.

12. Notes

- Support under this program must be used for activities related to the submitted research plan.
- Use of funds must follow the accounting rules of Kyoto University and the Graduate School of Education.
- If there are major changes to the research plan or budget plan after selection, applicants must consult their academic advisor and the WCE Project staff in advance.
- Support funds must be used within the 2026 academic year. They cannot be carried over to the following academic year.

- For expenditures close to the end of the academic year, accounting procedures may take time. Applicants should consult their academic advisor and the relevant administrative office as early as possible.
- Selected applicants will be asked to present at the end-of-year reporting session.
- Selected applicants' participation in WCE-related events and involvement in project activities may be taken into account in future applications and selections for related programs.

13. Contact

For inquiries regarding this program, please contact:

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World Citizenship Education Project

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