

**Entrance Requirements for**  
**GRADUATE SCHOOL of LIFE DENTISTRY**

**AT NIIGATA**

**2026**

**THE NIPPON DENTAL UNIVERSITY**

## **Admission Policy**

In order to fulfill its fundamental principles and accomplish its educational goals, the University seeks students who possess excellent academic credentials, are highly motivated, and are richly endowed with feelings of empathy for others.

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## 1. ACADEMIC CALENDER

### 1) Academic Year Calendar

2024～2025

Registration..... March 31, 2025

1st Semester..... April 1, 2025～September 30, 2025  
or October 1, 2025 ～March 31, 2026

2nd Semester ..... October 1, 2025～March 31, 2026  
or April 1, 2026～September 30, 2026

### 2) Holidays and Vacation

Every Saturday and Sunday

National Holidays

Spring Recess ..... April 1～5

Summer Vacation ..... July 23～August 19

Winter Vacation .....December 24～January 10

Foundation Day .....June 1

## 2. REGENT BOARD AND COUNCIL

Administration of the Graduate School of Life Dentistry at Niigata  
The Nippon Dental University

FUJII Kazuyuki, DDS, PhD  
Chairman of the Regent Board  
President  
Professor

NAKAHARA Ken, DDS, PhD  
Vice-president  
Dean of School of Life Dentistry at Niigata  
Professor

SATOH Yoshihide, DDS, PhD  
Dean of Graduate School of Life Dentistry at Niigata  
Professor

### **3. MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

Prof. TSUJIMURA Maiko, DDS, PhD.

Prof. SATOH Yoshihide, DDS, PhD.

Prof. MORITA Takao, PhD.

Prof. MIKAMI Masato, PhD.

Prof. KOMATSUZAKI Akira, DDS, PhD.

Prof. OHKUMA Kazuo, DDS, PhD.

Prof. MIZUHASHI Fumi, DDS, PhD.

Prof. UEDA Kazuhiko, DDS, PhD.

Prof. OGURA Ichiro, DDS, PhD.

Prof. OKADA Yasuo, DDS, PhD.

Prof. NINOMIYA Kazunori, DDS, PhD.

Prof. OOHASHI Makoto, DDS, PhD.

Prof. MOROZUMI Toshiya, DDS, PhD.

Prof. SUZUKI Masaya, DDS, PhD.

Prof. SATO Soh, DDS, PhD.

Prof. KUROKI Junko, DDS, PhD.

Prof. IIJIMA Shigeki, DDS, PhD.

Prof. TANAKA Akira, DDS, PhD.

Prof. OHKOSHI Shogo, M.D., PhD.

#### 4. EDUCATIONAL COMMISSION AND OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the graduate school is to educate prospective researchers with ability, knowledge and humanity in the dental and basic science fields.

They will pursue both extensions of dental medicine and improvement of medical welfare.

#### 5. NUMBER OF STUDENTS TO BE ADMITTED

A maximum 18 students will be accepted each year.

#### 6. MAJOR SUBJECTS AND DIRECTORS IN THE DOCTORAL COURSE

Dental Doctoral Research is divided into 3 courses:

1. Basic Science, 2. Applied Science and 3. Clinical Science. Each course includes 3 fields and has 2 main subject programs as listed in the following table.

Courses	Fields	Major Subject Programs	Directors
1. Basic Science	Oral & Maxillofacial Morphology	Comparative Morphology of Oral Hard Tissue and Mucous Membranes	
		Histology	TSUJIMURA Maiko
	Oral & Maxillofacial Functions Science	Physiology of Mastication and Salivation	SATOH Yoshihide
		Molecular Biology of Saliva and Salivary Glands	MORITA Takao
	Oral & Maxillofacial Infection and Environmental Health Science	Oral Infection and Immunity	MINKAMI Masato
		Oral Environment and Community Dental Health	KOMATSUZAKI Akira
2. Applied Science	Oral Biomaterials and Occlusion Science	Developmental Science of Oral Biomaterials	OHKUMA Kazuo
		Functional Occlusal Treatment	MIZUHASHI Fumi
		Functional Occlusal Treatment	UEDA Kazuhiko
	Oral & Maxillofacial Imaging and Histopathological Diagnostics	Quantitative Diagnostic Imaging	OGURA Ichiro
		Histopathology of Pathogenic Mechanisms	OKADA Yasuo
	Oral & Maxillofacial Bio-response and Anesthesiology	Pharmacodynamics of Hard Tissue and Salivary Glands	NINOMIYA Kazunori
		Anesthesiology and Resuscitation	OOHASHI Makoto
	3. Clinical Science	Advanced Conservative Dentistry and Periodontology	Endodontics
Advanced Operative Dentistry			SUZUKI Masaya
Periodontology			SATO Soh
Oral & Maxillofacial Growth and Development		Pediatric Oral Behavior Science	KUROKI Junko
		Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics	IJIMA Shigeki
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery and Systemic Medicine		Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	TANAKA Akira
		Clinical Examination	OHKOSHI Shogo

## 7. MAIN STUDY CONTENTS

Major Subject Programs (Director)	Main Themes of the Study
Comparative Morphology of Oral Hard Tissue and Mucous Membranes ( )	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Morphogenesis of the head and neck</li> <li>2. Clinical anatomy of the maxillofacial region</li> <li>3. Tissue regeneration study using stem cells</li> </ol>
Histology (TSUJIMURA Maiko)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Immunohistochemical study of the taste bud</li> <li>2. Histological study of the tissue around oral implants</li> <li>3. Histological study on alteration of the tissue after oral surgical procedures</li> </ol>
Physiology of Mastication and Salivation (SATOYoshihide)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Central control mechanisms of feeding and swallowing</li> <li>2. Central transmission mechanisms of oral sensation</li> <li>3. Relationship between occlusion and motor function in sports dentistry</li> </ol>
Molecular Biology of Saliva and Salivary Glands (MORITA Takao)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Molecular mechanism of salivary secretion</li> <li>2. Molecular mechanism of intracellular signaling by receptor stimulation</li> <li>3. Photoimmunotherapy and fluorescence imaging of oral and maxillofacial cancer</li> </ol>
Oral Infection and Immunity (MIKAMI Masato)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Analysis of host response against periodontal pathogens</li> <li>2. Study on signal transduction of oral bacteria</li> <li>3. Study on activation of innate immunity by oral bacterial products</li> </ol>
Oral Environmental Community Dental Health (KOMATSUZAKI Akira)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The evaluation of a community-based oral health care program for prevention effectiveness</li> <li>2. A field study of oral health public services associated with health promotion</li> <li>3. Development of a new masticatory function assessment system employing a laser beam for oral health</li> </ol>
Developmental Science of Oral Biomaterials (OHKUMA Kazuo)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Study on fabrication of dental restorations using CAD/CAM</li> <li>2. Fatigue of dental polymer adhesive material</li> <li>3. Development of the automation of the teeth preparation</li> </ol>
Functional Occlusal Treatment (MIZUHASHI Fumi)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Digital denture</li> <li>2. Study on oral function of denture wearer</li> <li>3. Analysis of salivary protein on oral dryness patient</li> </ol>
Functional Occlusal Treatment (UEDA Kazuhiko)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Methods of implant therapy and physical properties of implant materials</li> <li>2. The suitability of fixed dental prosthesis</li> <li>3. Physical properties of CAD/CAM materials</li> </ol>
Quantitative Diagnostic Imaging (OGURA Ichiro)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SPECT/CT for oral and maxillofacial diseases</li> <li>2. Characteristic multimodal imaging of MRONJ</li> <li>Diffusion-weighted MR imaging and US elastography of oral cancer</li> </ol>

Major Subject Programs (Director)	Main Themes of the Study
Histopathology of Pathogenic Mechanisms (OKADA Yasuo)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Comprehensive study on genesis, proliferation, invasion, metastasis, diagnosis and treatment of oral cancer</li> <li>2. Study on tumorous property acquisition of the lining epithelium of odontogenic cyst</li> <li>3. Study on histopathological malignancy grade, angiogenesis and metastasis of malignant tumor of salivary gland</li> </ol>
Pharmacodynamics of Hard Tissue and Salivary Gland (NINOMIYA Kazunori)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Study on secretory mechanisms in the salivary gland</li> <li>2. Study on substances suppressing carcinogenicity</li> <li>3. Mechanisms of adrenal catecholamine secretion</li> </ol>
Anesthesiology and Resuscitation (OOHASHI Makoto)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Study on the awaking process of sedation</li> <li>2. Study on the effect of biological invasions in dentistry on blood sugar</li> <li>3. Development of new local anesthesia methods</li> </ol>
Endodontics (MOROZUMI Toshiya)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cellular characterization of dental pulp stem cells and their application to periodontal tissue regeneration</li> <li>2. Microbiome analysis in pulpal and apical periodontal disease</li> <li>3. Characterization of endodontic materials and equipment and development of a novel root canal cleaning system</li> </ol>
Advanced Operative Dentistry (SUZUKI Masaya)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Study on tooth adhesion of dental restorative materials</li> <li>2. Study on development of bioactive dental adhesive materials</li> <li>1. Study on prevention and control for dental root caries using photodynamic therapy</li> </ol>
Periodontology (SATO Soh)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Study on the periodontal tissue regeneration</li> <li>2. Study of the periodontal-systemic connection</li> <li>3. Study on esthetics in periodontal treatment</li> </ol>
Pediatric Oral Behavior Science (KUROKI Junko)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Study of oral diseases and the underlying pathomechanisms</li> <li>2. Study of the factor of tooth development and eruption</li> <li>3. Study of salivary protein and dental caries prevention</li> </ol>
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics (IIJIMA Shigeki)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Studies on function and morphology related to malocclusion</li> <li>2. Studies on congenital anomalies and jaw deformities related to malocclusion</li> <li>3. Biomechanical analysis of orthodontic treatment</li> </ol>
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery (TANAKA Akira)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Experimental study on anti-cancer drug sensitivity test for oral cancer chemotherapy</li> <li>2. Experimental study on regeneration of salivary gland, nerve and tooth</li> <li>3. Experimental study on Medication-Related Osteonecrosis of the jaw</li> </ol>
Clinical Examination (OHKOSHI Shogo)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Research on the interrelation between oral diseases and systemic diseases.</li> <li>2. Sleep apnea syndrome and fatty liver</li> <li>3. Research on dental pulp stem cells for regenerative medicine</li> </ol>



## 8. COMPLETION OF THE DOCTORAL COURSE

The doctoral course normally takes four years to complete, but it is possible to complete it in three years.

## 9. ADMISSION FOR ENROLLMENT TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

### 1) General Statement

Applications for admission are selected on the basis of their qualifications, regardless of race, color, sex or nationality.

Qualities such as interest, intellectual curiosity, perception and ability to reason, are the prime requirements in addition to a record of academic competence. Candidates for a degree are admitted only on a full time resident basis.

### 2) Requirement for Admission

#### ① Regular graduate students from a dental or medical school

An applicant who intends to become a candidate for a degree is expected to have graduated from a dental or medical school in March of this year, or has already graduated. Applicants from a medical school are restricted to the clinical science course and part of the applied science course.

Please check before applying. In order to practice clinical treatment, you need a certificate of at least 3 years clinical experience.

#### ② Graduate students besides those from dental and medical schools

The major general requirement is an approved master degree or equivalent education as determined by the qualification screening committee.

Note: Applicants are expected to be able to converse in Japanese.

Note: In accordance with the principles of the Act for Eliminating Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities, we have established a support desk to address requests for assistance. Applicants who require support are encouraged to contact the admissions office of the respective faculty well in advance of submitting their application.

## 10. DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR APPLICATION

- 1) Two application forms from the office should be completed, and two photographs of the applicant's face (4 x 5 cm, front view, no cap, black and white, and taken within 3 months; color photos are also accepted) should be attached to the forms. A second choice of program may be selected.

The completed forms should be returned to the Admission Office by September 1, 2025 or February 16, 2026.

- 2) A copy of the diploma or a certificate of expected graduation.

- 3) A sealed transcript issued from the president of the university.

It is accepted only when the seal is opened at our office. A transcript is able to replace the graduate examination. Applicants may also provide two letters of recommendation from faculty members familiar with their academic qualification.

- 4) A health examination record which includes details of eyesight, color, sense, auditory-sense tuberculosis, psychopathic and other disorders needs to be submitted.

## **11. EXAMINATION FEE**

- 1) ¥20,000.

- 2) Procedures necessary for the examination

Present the documents with the examination fee to the Admission Office. Application must be received no later than September 1, 2025 or February 15, 2026. Numbered admission tickets will be sent by airmail or facsimile to other countries from Japan.

Please include your facsimile number, if you (or your school) have one.

## **12. SUBJECT OF EXAMINATION**

- 1) Essay

Applicants are required to submit an essay of approximately 600 words in English.

- 2) Interview

An interview will be conducted by the director of the graduate school.

- 3) Deadline for Application Form of Examination

Date: February 19, 2026

## **13. EVALUATION CRITERIA**

- 1) Essay

Evaluated on a 5-point scale based on the logical coherence of the writing in relation to the given theme.

- 2) Interview

Assessed on a 5-point scale, focusing on the applicant's motivation for applying to the graduate school and their interest and enthusiasm for research.

## **14. ADMISSION DECISION METHOD**

Admission decisions will be made comprehensively by the Graduate School of Life Dentistry at Niigata Committee, held on the day of the successful applicants' announcement. These decisions will take into account the pre-interview with the professor in charge of the applicant's intended major subject.

## **15. EXPENSES**

Expenses	To be paid at the time of
Entrance fee	¥200,000.....Admission
Tuition	¥550,000.....Beginning of the year
General insurance	¥8,000.....Beginning of the year
Total	¥758,000.....Total expense for the first year

Notice !

No costs mentioned above are refundable for any reason.

Students whose universities participate in the mutual science promotion program is entitled to a 20% discount on their tuition.

Following is a list of member universities:

Chung Shan Medical University

University of Michigan

University Paris 7 DENIS-DIDEROT

Sichuan University, West China College of Stomatology

University of Bern

The Hebrew University

The University of British Columbia

University of Manchester

Mahidol University

University of Turku

University of the Philippines

The University of Pennsylvania

The University of Adelaide

University of Otago

Health Sciences University of Mongolia

Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, University of Maryland

The University of Hong Kong

Faculty of Medicine/Dentistry, The Danube Private University  
(in the order of joining as members of sister schools)

#### 1) Registration for Admission

Registration for admission must be received by the last day of March or September.

Please transfer all expenses (tuition and other fees) into the school account.

Sponsorship or bank certification for the full expenses of the four years is required.

### **16. ACADEMIC REGULATIONS AND PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

#### 1) Financial Requirements

Tuition fee, studying and living expenses have to be fully prepared by students.

In addition, they need financial certification of sponsorship during the four years or bank certification.

#### 2) Student Curriculum

Students plan their curriculum in consultation with their Program Director and Research Advisor.

#### 3) Credit Requirement

Credit is granted only for those courses that have been approved by the Committee of Program Directors as listed in the bulletin.

The time required to achieve 1 credit is the total time for lectures, seminars and practices. Lecture units are 45 minutes, seminar units are 45 minutes x 2 and practical units are 45 minutes x 3, and they all run for approximately 15 weeks each.

① Basic Science

Subject	Credit
	Year
Comparative Morphology of Oral Hard Tissue and Mucous Membranes	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Histology	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Physiology of Mastication and Salivation	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Molecular Biology of Saliva and Salivary Glands	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Molecular Biology of Saliva and Salivary Glands	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Oral Infection and Immunity	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Oral Environmental and Community Dental Health	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6

## ② Applied Science

Subject	Credit
	Year
Developmental Science of Oral Biomaterials	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Functional Occlusal Treatment	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Quantitative Diagnostic Imaging	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Histopathology of Pathogenic Mechanisms	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Pharmacodynamics of Hard Tissue and Salivary Glands	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Anesthesiology and Resuscitation	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6

### ③ Clinical Science

Subject	Credit
	Year
Advanced Operative Dentistry • Endodontics	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Periodontology	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Pediatric Oral Behavior Science	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
Clinical Examination	Lecture Seminar 3 Practice 4 Thesis Submission 6
All Courses / Core Classes	Lecture
Common Subject I	1.5
Common Subject II	1.5
Common Subject III	1.5

## **17. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DOCTORAL COURSE**

- 1 ) Each student must complete a major subject, associated subjects and other subjects totaling at least 30 credits, under the guidance of the Director. With permission of the Committee of the Graduate Course, students are able to take graduate level lectures at other universities and any credits achieved may be approved for addition up to a maximum of 10 credits.
- 2 ) After completion of all course requirements, candidates must demonstrate adequate mastery of their field, through both a written and comprehensive oral examination.
- 3 ) The dissertation will be based on original experimental research performed under the guidance of the Program Director.

## **18. PRESENTATION OF THE DISSERTATION**

Students wishing to obtain a doctorate by presenting a thesis must submit the necessary forms to the Graduate Office. The dissertation will be preliminarily inspected by the inquiry committee comprised of three members. It will be evaluated in accordance with the standards deserving of a doctoral degree. At this time the student's ability to comprehend the major significance of the chosen field will be tested by an oral examination. After clearing the preliminary examination, the dissertation will be advanced to a full meeting of all committee members who will discuss the qualifications of academic competence.

Acceptance is determined by more than two-third approval of all members of the committee. A graduate degree (PhD) is awarded by The Nippon Dental University School of Life Dentistry at the Niigata graduation ceremony in March.

## **19. DISCIPLINE**

The following may be cause for disciplinary action:

- 1 ) Students who do not pay school expenses by the due date.
- 2 ) Students who conduct themselves unsocially or immorally.
- 3 ) Students who find it impossible to graduate.
- 4 ) Students who stay over 8 years.
- 5 ) Students who do not attend class regularly.

Punishment for the aforementioned will be decided by members of the committee. Discipline may consist of cautioning, suspension or expulsion from school.

Application for Admission of The Nippon Dental University  
Graduate School of Life Dentistry at Niigata.  
1-8 Hamauracho, Chuo-ku, Niigata, 951-8580 Japan.  
Tel: +81-25-267-1500  
Fax: +81-25-267-1134

1. Full name (Capitalize Family Name) .  
family first middle

漢字 (in Kanji) if available.

☐ Male ☐ Female

2. Date, Place of Birth and Nationality.  
Month Day Year

Nationality/Citizenship

3. Marital Status ☐ married. ☐ unmarried

If you are married and will be accompanied by family members, indicate their name (s) and date (s) of birth, and nationality

4. Mailing addresses

1) Home

Tel:

Fax:

2) Office

Tel:

Fax:

5. University education:

Period (from/to) Name of Univ.

Place

Subject

Degree

Color or Black  
&White Photo

4×5cm

(See p.12)



6. Graduate course (major subject) you wish to study.

1<sup>st</sup> choice

2<sup>nd</sup> choice

7. Previous employment (if any)

Institution

Location

Position

From/To

8. Academic awards (please indicate title and year)

9. Language ability (Evaluate using Excellent, Good, or Fair)

Writing

Reading

Speaking

Japanese

English

Others

10. Previous Stay in Japan

Place

Year and duration

Purpose

11. Sponsor or Financial Guarantor

Name

Position or title

Relationship

Address:

Tel:

Fax:

Signature

12. Contact in Case of Emergency

Full name

Address:

Tel:

Relationship

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Date

Signature