

Doctoral Program

1) Program Name and Degree Conferred

Doctoral Program – Doctor of Musical Arts [Hakase (Ongaku)]

Doctor of Philosophy in Musicology [Hakase (Ongakugaku)]

2) Qualifications Required for Application

Applicants to the Doctoral Degree Program of Elisabeth University of Music must meet both of the following conditions A and B.

A. Those who are in one of the following categories 1 to 4

1. Those who will have earned a Master's (Shuushi) degree before the end of the semester immediately preceding entrance to the Doctoral Program.

NB: In Elisabeth University of Music, the first semester is from April 1 to September 20 and the second semester is from September 21 to March 31.

2. Those who have earned a degree outside Japan equivalent to a Master's (Shuushi) degree.

3. Those who have been designated by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan.

4. Those who are judged by the Graduate Division of Elisabeth University of Music to possess ability and experience equal to or exceeding persons mentioned in 1. above.

B. Those who have obtained one of the following Japanese language proficiency certificates.

The JLPT (Japanese-Language Proficiency Test) Level N1

The J.TEST (Test of Practical Japanese) A-C Level Test 700 points (or greater)

JLCT (Japanese Language Capability Test) Level JCT 1

NAT-TEST (Japanese Language NAT-TEST) Level 1

J-cert (Certificate of Japanese as a Foreign Language) Level C1 (or higher)

JPT (Japanese Proficiency Test) 660 points (or greater)

NB1: For further information, check the official websites:

- <https://www.jlpt.jp/> (for JLPT) <https://j-test.jp/> (for J.TEST)

<https://www.jlct.jp/> (for JLCT) <http://www.nat-test.com/> (for NAT-TEST)

<https://www.j-cert.org/> (for J-cert) <https://www.jpctest.jp/> (for JPT)

NB2: If you have taken a certification test other than the Japanese Language Proficiency Test designated by the University and have received a certificate equivalent to the required level, please contact kikaku01@eum.ac.jp.

3) Examination Dates and Location

Doctoral Program Entrance Examinations are given twice annually. All examinations are given at Elisabeth University of Music in Hiroshima. Preliminary Assessment is required for international applicants residing abroad. See 4) below.

1. Examinations are usually given during the fourth or fifth week of November for April (spring semester) entrance.
2. Examinations are usually given during the fourth or fifth week of June for September (fall semester) entrance.

NB: The Entrance Examination for the spring semester of 2026 is scheduled for November 25-26, 2025. Details will be determined following Preliminary Assessment.

3. Location: Elisabeth University of Music (4-15 Nobori-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima-shi, Japan 730-0016)

4) Preliminary Assessment

International applicants residing abroad must submit the documents below before the date designated by the Admission office by express mail or email to:

Graduate Division Admissions (Gakujibu Gakumu)

Elisabeth University of Music

4-15 Nobori-cho, Naka-ku

Hiroshima-shi, Japan 730-0016

Phone: 0081-82-221-0918

Email: gakumu01@eum.ac.jp

NB1: Applicants who wish to take the entrance examination for the spring semester of 2026 should submit the documents **before October 15, 2025**.

NB2: If submitting by email, please send the documents as PDF attachments by the designated date above, and then send the originals by express mail.

1. Application Form

The on-line Application Form

2. Biographical information (the applicant's Curriculum Vitae, including employment experience, professional and artistic achievements, etc.).
3. A copy of Identification (card) with photo or passport (ID page)
4. Statement of Purpose (about 400 characters in Japanese, or about 200 words in English)
5. Academic transcript / official grade report (of whole period enrolled in the institution)
6. Graduate diploma copy with institution seal
7. Certification of Japanese proficiency (See 2) B)
8. Research plan

NB: The research title, research objectives and methods, annual plan, and key references should also be included.

9. Program of performance examination (titles of pieces and durations)

NB: For applicants submitting performance material only.

10. Recent recordings, papers/publications, original compositions, etc. representative of the applicant's work and relevant to the proposed area of doctoral research. See 6) below.

NB: All materials should be submitted in a format that allows reproduction. Original copies will be returned upon request.

11. Bank statements (or equivalent documents indicative of the applicant's and his or her parents' financial situation) from the three consecutive months immediately preceding the Entrance Examination in Hiroshima.

NB1: Having the balance amounted to at least equivalent to 600,000 JPY is required.

NB2: No information submitted will be revealed to or used in any way by persons other than those responsible for Admission Decisions and scholarship applications.

12. Statement of Financial Support (Use the designated format attached to this application guidebook)

NB: Make sure to specify the relationship between the applicant and guarantor.

[Applicants from the Philippines, Nepal and Viet Nam]

13. TB (tuberculosis) Clearance Certificate

NB1: The certificate must be issued by the designated medical facility located in the applicants' country for screening.

NB2: In case the applicant fails to submit the certificate before the entrance procedures start, the applicant might miss some classes due to delayed entry into Japan.

NB3: For further information, check the following website: <https://jpets.mhlw.go.jp/>

5) Entrance Examination

Doctoral Program Entrance Examination dates will be finalized following the Preliminary Assessment. Permission to take the Entrance Examination will be withheld if preparation is judged insufficient. (The Preliminary Assessment process can be repeated.)

Applicants may be required to revise and re-submit their Research Plan before the Entrance Examination.

6) Entrance Examination Subjects

1. Subjects required for all applicants:

A. Foreign language examination (written translation, 90 minutes). Dictionaries may be used.

International applicants may choose either of the following:

(1) Translation to Japanese from one of the following:

English, German, French, Italian.

(2) Translation to English from one of the following:

Japanese, German, French, Italian.

B. An oral examination on the applicant's area of specialization and research plan.

2. Requirements according to the applicant's area of specialization:

Theoretical Studies

Composition: Three or more of the applicant's principal works

Musicology: A thesis or research paper by the applicant

Sacred Music: One of the following:

- A thesis or research paper by the applicant
- Three or more of applicant's sacred works
- Singing of liturgical and religious music by the applicant (approximately 30 minutes)
- Performance of liturgical/religious music on organ or other keyboard instruments (approximately 30 minutes)

Music Education: One of the following:

- A thesis or research paper by the applicant
- 3 or more of applicant's principal works
- Instrumental (including electric organ) or vocal performance by the applicant (approximately 30 minutes)

Vocal Performance

Voice: A performance of approximately 1 hour, consisting of works chosen by the applicant including at least one piece related to the applicant's research theme.

Applicants must arrange their own accompanists.

Instrumental Performance

Keyboard instruments: A performance of approximately 1 hour, consisting of works chosen by the applicant including at least one piece related to the applicant's research theme.

String instruments: A performance of approximately 1 hour, consisting of works chosen by the applicant including at least one piece related to the applicant's research theme.

Applicants must arrange their own accompanists.

Wind and percussion instruments: A performance of approximately 1 hour, consisting of works chosen by the applicant including at least one piece related to the applicant's research theme.

Applicants must arrange their own accompanists.

3. Interview

7) Admission Decisions

Decisions will be announced at Elisabeth University of Music at the end of the Entrance Examination period.

8) Entrance Procedures

Information about Entrance Procedures will be provided with notification of acceptance. Failure to complete Entrance Procedures by the date specified will be understood as an indication of the applicant's intention not to enter the Doctoral Program.

9) Tuition and Fees

Tuition and Fees are announced annually in spring. Tuition and fees indicated below are for the current academic year (April 2025 to March 2026):

1. Entrance Fee 400,000 JPY

NB: The Entrance Fee is required of newly admitted students.

2. Tuition (per year) 675,000 JPY

3. Facilities Fee (per year) 150,000 JPY TOTAL 1,225,000 JPY

10) Doctoral Program Scholarships

Scholarships from the Loyola International Exchange Fund of Elisabeth University of Music are awarded to international students in the Doctoral Program based on academic excellence and financial need.

Description

1. Doctoral Program Scholarships are awarded on a case-by-case basis.
2. Scholarships apply to Tuition and Fees at Elisabeth University of Music. A full scholarship covers all Tuition and Fees for one academic year.
3. Living expenses are the responsibility of the student. No grants are available from Elisabeth University of Music for living expenses or for travel to and from Japan. (The Japanese Embassy or Consulates in the applicant's home country can provide information about scholarships from other sources for living expenses.)

Conditions

1. Scholarships are limited to persons under 35 years of age.
2. Scholarships are for one year. Doctoral students in good standing may apply for renewal of their scholarships for the second and third years of the Doctoral Program.
3. Financial assistance beyond the third year will be considered only if all course work and qualifying examinations have been successfully completed and the Dissertation Protocol has received final approval from the Graduate Division faculty by the end of the student's third year in the Doctoral Program.

Application Process

1. Application for a Doctoral Program Scholarship must be made together with application for admission. See the Graduate Division Application Form.
2. Applicants for Doctoral Program Scholarships will be interviewed at the time of their Entrance Examination by university officials responsible for administration of the Loyola International Exchange Fund.

Scholarship Announcements

Notification regarding Doctoral Program Scholarships will be given together with Admission Decisions at the end of the Entrance Examination period. See 8) Admission Decisions above.



Elisabeth University of Music

4-15, Nobori-cho, Naka-ku, Hiroshima 730-0016 JAPAN

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Statement of Financial Support (経費支弁誓約書)

To the President of Elisabeth University of Music

エリザベト音楽大学 学長 殿

Applicant

Nationality (国籍) _____

Name (氏名) _____

Date of Birth (生年月日) _____ Sex (性別) ☐ Male(男) ・ ☐ Female(女)

Home Address (住所) _____

Phone Number (電話番号) _____

Email Address (メールアドレス) _____

Financial Supporter

Name (氏名) _____

Relationship to Applicant (申請者との関係) _____

Home Address (住所) _____

Phone Number (電話番号) _____

Email Address (メールアドレス) _____

Occupation (職業) _____

Name of Employer (勤務先名称) _____

Address of Employer (勤務先住所) _____

I hereby certify that the above-mentioned applicant will be financially supported while he/she is enrolled at Elisabeth University of Music, Japan.

私は、上記の者が日本でエリザベト音楽大学大学院に在学中の経費を支弁することを証明します。

Signature of Financial Supporter: _____

経費支弁者氏名 (署名)

Date (日付) _____