

IBARAKI PREFECTURAL UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES



茨城県立医療大学



Greeting from the President

In 2025, our university will celebrate its 30th anniversary. Over the years, many of our graduates have gone on to thrive in a variety of fields, including hospitals and medical facilities both within and outside the prefecture, as well as in academia and research.

We are entering a time of profound social transformation marked by rapid globalization, ever-changing societal conditions, and technological advancements such as artificial intelligence. In the field of healthcare, this means it is more important than ever for professionals not only to possess deep expertise in their own specializations, but also to work in close cooperation across disciplines, responding with empathy and teamwork to the needs of patients and communities.

Our university is committed to nurturing such well-rounded medical professionals. We offer a variety of learning opportunities aimed at developing both advanced clinical skills and a strong sense of collaboration. Programs such as International Interprofessional Education and Community-Based Interprofessional Education help students cultivate both a global perspective and a grounded awareness of local healthcare needs.

Clinical practice ability is just as essential as theoretical knowledge in medical training. To ensure this, we incorporate hands-on, practice-oriented education, including the early adoption of the Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE), which allows us to assess clinical skills in a standardized, rigorous manner. Through these efforts, we aim to train healthcare professionals who balance advanced knowledge with practical competence.

We are also proud to be the only public university of health sciences in Japan with an affiliated hospital. This unique asset enables us to provide integrated clinical education and research opportunities directly tied to real-world healthcare.

At the graduate level, we reorganized our master's program in 2024 into a single department that includes the field of medical science, allowing for broader interdisciplinary education and research guided by a diverse faculty.

In our Graduate Program in Midwifery, students train using advanced, realistic simulators in facilities designed to closely replicate clinical settings, ensuring that they gain the hands-on experience necessary for mastering midwifery skills.

With this exceptional environment for both education and research, we invite you to take the next step in your academic and professional journey here at our university.



President Shinji Abe

Department of Nursing



To help people achieve their desire to live well at every stage of life, nursing specialists must provide the best possible care: supporting health, promoting recovery, and offering gentle, respectful end-of-life support to people of all ages and health conditions. In addition to applying their professional skills, they also help people maintain and improve their health by drawing on habits and practices rooted in everyday life. They support efforts to prevent illness, avoid health problems, and reduce the risk of decline.

The Department of Nursing aims to foster nursing practitioners who have a deep understanding of human beings grounded in the dignity of life, as well as a rich sense of humanity and a creative spirit. They are expected to make full use of advanced knowledge in nursing science as well as sophisticated medical technology. Upon graduation, students are eligible to take the national examinations for both Registered Nurse and Public Health Nurse licenses.



Department of Physical Therapy

Physical therapy is a field of rehabilitation that aims to restore motor functions, maintain physical functions, and prevent further decline by using exercises, heat, electrical stimulation, and other methods for individuals with impaired physical function. Although the primary focus of physical therapy has been individuals with physical impairments, it has recently expanded to include healthy individuals, such as those seeking to prevent lifestyle-related diseases or delay the need for nursing care in old age. Physical therapists who work with all age groups—from newborns to older adults—are playing an increasingly important role in supporting rehabilitation, promoting health, and preventing physical decline.

The IPUHS Department of Physical Therapy offers comprehensive training in the foundational knowledge and skills required for physical therapy practice. It prepares physical therapists to provide appropriate therapy and guidance in medical institutions,

community healthcare and welfare services, and other care settings. Graduates are equipped to address a wide range of functional disabilities caused by orthopedic surgery, musculoskeletal conditions, and disorders of the cerebrovascular, nervous, respiratory, and circulatory systems.



Department of Occupational Therapy

All people engage in occupations ranging from learning, playing and working to managing daily life activities. In Occupational Therapy, "occupation" refers to the tasks that a person wants or needs to do. Occupational therapists support individuals (both with and without disabilities) across their lifespan to participate in occupations by assisting in the recovery, development, enhancement, and maintenance of essential skills that are important for independent living, health, well-being and happiness. The Department of Occupational Therapy cultivates students' knowledge and professional skills, including assessment, treatment and intervention using therapeutical occupations and/or adjusting the environment for enabling occupations by offering a variety of courses.



Department of Radiological Sciences



In the Department of Radiological Sciences, students learn about diagnostic imaging technology, nuclear medicine technology, radiation therapy technology, and more. Our educational philosophy emphasizes experiments and practical training. Equipment and programs play an important role in education, and diagnostic imaging systems commonly found in hospitals such as MRI, MDCT, and ultrasound are available to support the students in their studies. In addition, a linear accelerator for radiation therapy and a SPECT system have been set up for education, and are used for experiments and practical training.

Students also learn about medical imaging data processing and patient care. In this continually advancing field, it is important to train radiological technologists who can provide safe and high-quality diagnosis and therapy. Our department's information technology system includes an image network that connects various devices and includes software for image processing. Experienced professional staff support the students in their studies, and these facilities and educational programs allow students to carry out extensive experiments and receive practical training.

In order to develop radiological technologists with excellent knowledge, skills, and personality as a good medical staff, our department provides seminar-style small-group education and clinical training.



Center for Humanities and Sciences



The Center for Humanities and Sciences is responsible for instruction in foundational subjects that enable deeper understanding of students' core specialties and equip students with critical thinking and ethical reasoning skills. This well-rounded approach to education is essential for succeeding in the healthcare industry, which is at the forefront of societal and demographic shifts currently affecting Japanese society.

Foundational subjects are taken during the first and second years and are organized into three courses: the basic science course, the communication course, and the human development course. The Basic Science Course supports mastery of the scientific knowledge needed for students' specialized studies, including biology, chemistry, and information science. The Communication Course develops the ability to formulate thoughts and express oneself intelligently through study of foreign languages, Braille, sign language, academic writing, psychology, sociology, and philosophy. The Human Development Course fosters personal growth and deepens students' understanding of how their role as healthcare providers fits into larger social, economic, and cultural contexts through subjects such as economics, education, philosophy, psychology, and sports science.

This approach of integrating liberal arts coursework with specialized study is unusual for a university focused on applied health sciences. It reflects Ibaraki Prefecture's commitment to developing a medical workforce whose members understand their place in the broader societal context and are tomorrow's leaders in the fast-evolving medical field.



Center for Medical Sciences

Healthcare professionals must be able to respond to diversifying healthcare medicine in line with changes in society, and the future progress of medicine and medical technologies. The Center for Medical Sciences provides education in a wide range of fundamental medical sciences and medicine, which supports students' progress to more advanced studies in their specialized fields. Well-equipped laboratories for studying physiology, cell biology, anatomy, pathology, microbiology and neurosciences have been established to assist research as well as education.



In particular, we provide a clinical skills training course during preclinical years in the university 'AiLabo' skills laboratory where students can receive clinical simulation education and acquire essential practical skills.

We also provide our 3rd- and 4th-year students with health science research courses, some examples of which are:

- Microcirculation abnormalities and organ failure in lifestyle-disease
- Effectiveness of gait training with hybrid assistive limb in the field of neuro-rehabilitation
- Clinical and experimental studies on calcium phosphate-hybridized tendon grafts
- Autonomic nerve system abnormalities in septic condition MRI findings in patients with epilepsy
- Community gardens as health promoters in patient with mental disabilities
- Chlamydia pneumonia infection and atherosclerosis
- Clinical and experimental studies on neuroscience and rehabilitation

These advanced research courses play an important role in cultivating an in-depth understanding of the significance of medical sciences in healthcare professionals.

Graduate Program in Midwifery

The Graduate Program in Midwifery is a one-year post-baccalaureate course open to applicants holding a BSc in nursing. Completion of the program is required to obtain national certification to practice as a midwife.

The needs of a society with a declining birth rate require midwives who have the knowledge and skills to support families through childbirth, and who also possess the problem-solving abilities and motivation to bring positive change to the community. Through a study program combining both academic study and hands-on training, the program prepares midwives to become community leaders in caring for families during pregnancy, childbirth, and early infancy.

A key feature of the program is its twin pillars of active learning and simulation-based learning, which support the development and refinement of students' midwifery skills. Through study methods such as clinical reasoning and team-based learning, students explore approaches to midwifery diagnosis while simultaneously practicing techniques for managing a variety of situations through simulation practice. A state-of-the-art simulation room, equipped with a wide range of facilities, allows students to practice their skills in realistic clinical scenarios and is also available for use outside of class hours.

The curriculum also provides opportunities to develop inter-professional skills through collaboration with the university's four departments, two centers, and various health and administrative professionals, creating a broad and dynamic learning environment.



Graduate School of Health Sciences

The IPUHS Graduate Program in Health and Medical Sciences accepts students from diverse professional and academic backgrounds, including nursing, rehabilitation, radiology, clinical engineering, information science, and related fields. Students enroll in either a two-year master's or three-year doctoral program, with evening classes offered fully online to support working professionals.



Practical, cross-disciplinary research is the focus of the curriculum. Students may pursue advanced qualifications such as Certified Nurse Specialist (CNS) or Medical Physicist (MP), supervised by faculty in fields from internal medicine and psychiatry to biomechanics and AI. Access to the university hospital and research centers allows clinically grounded research and collaboration across departments. We emphasize cross-disciplinary study and strong support for enrolled students.

Graduates apply their training to areas such as post-stroke rehabilitation, clinical use of AI and biomechanics, and developing evidence-based programs for chronic conditions. Students may pursue a Master's Degree or continue to PhD studies.



As of 2025 (Reiwa 7), the doctoral program offers training in Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Radiological Sciences. Up to five students are admitted per year, and graduates of the three-year course earn the Doctor of Health and Medical Sciences degree. Beginning in 2026 (Reiwa 8), Medical Sciences will be added as a fifth field of specialization.

University Hospital

The University Hospital was opened in December 1996 as the first affiliated rehabilitation hospital of a public university of health sciences in Japan. The hospital also plays an important educational role, providing clinical training to students as part of an integrated university education system. In this way, the university contributes to educating skilled leaders who will serve local communities by practicing medical care and teamwork in the fields of welfare, health, and medicine. Clinical researchers who contribute to the development of rehabilitation sciences are actively supported within the hospital, which is connected to various medical institutions and welfare facilities through a collaborative network. The hospital is also designated by the prefecture as the "Ibaraki Prefecture Regional Rehabilitation Promotion Center."

Objectives and roles of the University Hospital

- 1) Practice of high-quality clinical training (securing a place for student's clinical training)
- 2) Promoting education and research (securing a place for clinical research)
- 3) Contribution to regional medical care (promotion of rehabilitation medicine)

Hospital overview

Number of beds: 120 beds (93 beds for adults, 27 beds for children)

Clinical divisions: rehabilitation medicine, internal medicine, orthopedics, neurology, pediatrics, neurosurgery, radiology, psychiatry, anesthesia



International Activities at IPUHS

Student Short-term Exchange Program

The exchange program between Ibaraki Prefectural University of Health Sciences (IPUHS) and Kaohsiung Medical University (KMU) began in 2015 as a partnership between the Occupational Therapy departments at both universities. It has since expanded to include all four departments at IPUHS: Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, and Radiological Sciences.

Students participate in university classes and workshops in the host country. These experiences provide them with insight into the health issues and their solutions in the host country, which may vary greatly from their own country. Through these experiences students learn to appreciate similarities and differences between cultures and may lean on this in the future to develop innovative methods in their future careers. To support their classroom learning, students visit hospitals and rehabilitation centers, where they take part in activities led by local medical professionals.

Through exchange activities and participation in cultural events, students form meaningful and long-lasting relationships and gain a deeper understanding of each other's backgrounds. For example, they take part in traditional ceremonies, and attend local festivals. It is through a balanced experience where students engage not only in academic and clinical learning, but also in daily cross-cultural exchange that they gain long-term friendships and personal growth.

Invited Overseas Lecturer Program

The Invited Overseas Lecturer Program invites leading researchers and medical practitioners from overseas academic institutions, providing an opportunity for university staff to hear about the latest developments in the medical arena. Invitations are made on rotation by the four Departments and two Centers, with a varied roster of speakers from the United States, China, Singapore and Taiwan. Lecturers may also hold seminars for students from the graduate school and take part in more informal academic exchanges such as the Science Café.



University Access



BY AIR

From Tokyo New International (Narita) Airport

Take the Airport Limousine bus to Tsuchiura station on the Joban Line. Buses leave Terminals 1 & 2 regularly with a journey time to the station of about 90 minutes.

From Ibaraki Airport

Take the bus to Ishioka station on the Joban Line. Buses leave regularly with a journey time to the station of about 30 minutes.

BY TRAIN

From the Joban Line Tsuchiura Station (West exit)

Take the bus for "Ami Chuo Kominkan" and get off at "Kenritsu Iryo Daigaku Iriguchi" (*1). From this stop the campus is about 8 minutes on foot. Buses leave approximately every 20 minutes with a journey time of about 25 minutes.

From the Joban Line Arakawaoki Station (East exit)

Take the bus for "Kenritsu Iryo Daigaku". Buses leave approximately every hour with a journey time of about 20 minutes. The last stop is in front of the main entrance of the university. (*2)

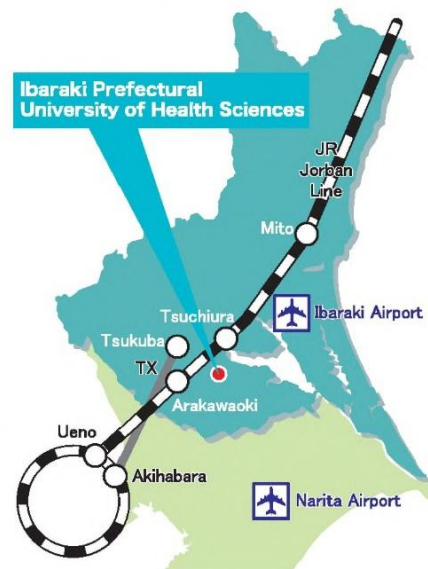
BY CAR

E6 : Joban Expressway

Take the Sakura Tsuchiura exit, from which the campus is about 20 minutes.

C4 : Ken-o Expressway

Take the Ami Higashi exit, from which the campus is about 20 minutes.



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