

English Translation
Entrance Ceremony Address
Iwate University Graduate School, 2026

To all new students, congratulations on your admission.
On behalf of all our faculty and staff, I sincerely congratulate you.

Today, we are very pleased to welcome 328 new master's students and 48 new doctoral students, for a total of 376 students, to the 2026 Iwate University Graduate School entrance ceremony.

You are here today because you continued to work hard toward your goals. At the same time, your families and many others have supported you warmly over the years. I would like to express my deep respect for your effort and my sincere thanks to all who have supported you.

As you begin your graduate studies, I hope you will build on what you learned as undergraduates, gain more advanced knowledge, and produce excellent research.

Iwate University has the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences at the master's level, and the Graduate Schools of Science and Engineering, Veterinary Sciences, and Agricultural Sciences at the doctoral level. We also have the Professional School for Teacher Education. In these graduate schools, we continue the education and research that many predecessors have built over time, covering wide fields such as the humanities, social sciences, science, engineering, agriculture, veterinary medicine, and educational studies.

From now on, you will begin full-scale research in the field you have chosen. Before you begin, I ask you to think about this question:

“What do I want to achieve during my graduate school life?”

Your goals may be very different. Some of you may want to explore fundamental research that can compete on a global scale. Some may want to create new technology. Others may wish to solve social problems at the global, national, or local level. This diversity is one of the strengths of graduate school.

There is something important I would like you to keep in mind as you work toward

your goals.

Today, some experiments done in undergraduate classes include techniques that, in the past, only advanced researchers could perform. Many principles that are well known today are based on a huge amount of data and technical progress built over many years. Your research field also has a long history with many people who explored before you. Please remember that you are now joining this long line of researchers and approach your work with that awareness and dedication.

This also means understanding the importance of honesty in research. It is important to look carefully at raw data, which is not processed or changed, and think deeply about it.

In research, we test hypotheses through experiments and analysis. However, people sometimes interpret data in ways that support their own ideas. This can lead to misunderstanding the truth and must be avoided.

When you get data that is different from your expectations, stop for a moment and think carefully about why. If your methods are wrong, you must correct them. But if the unexpected result is actually true, it may be the start of a new discovery.

I believe that research begins with intellectual curiosity. But research does not always go as planned. This is why the honest evaluation of your results, even when they do not support your ideas, is the key to finding new truths.

The two years of the master's program and the three or four years of the doctoral program are extremely important for building the foundation of your future career. During this time, I hope you will take on new challenges, gain great knowledge and skills, and become people who can lead your region, Japan, and the world.

All of us at Iwate University look forward to seeing how you will grow in the coming years.

I wish you good health and great success. With this, I conclude my address.

April 7, 2026

YAMAMOTO Yoshio

President, Iwate University