

**JSPS International Joint Research Program**  
**-a. JSPS-NSF International Collaborations in Chemistry (ICC)-**  
**-b. Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE)-**

**FY2012 CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

Notes:

- (1) This "FY2012 Call for Proposals" is an English translation of the official announcement in Japanese. Applicants should observe [the accompanying Japanese Application Guidelines](#).
- (2) This "FY2012 Call for Proposal" provides the application guidelines on the JSPS side. Please consult with NSF about the application guidelines for the US side.

**1. Program outline**

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) carries out international joint research programs for the purpose of advancing collaborative research between excellent researchers in Japanese universities and institutes and their overseas colleagues, while providing opportunities for young researchers to hone their skills. These programs are carried out in cooperation with overseas science-promotion organizations so as to respond to the global development of scientific research activities. One such program is carried out in cooperation with the National Science Foundation (NSF) in the US. Under it, project proposals are solicited for the JSPS-NSF International Collaborations in Chemistry (ICC Program) and the Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE Program).

**-a. JSPS-NSF International Collaborations in Chemistry (ICC)-**

(1) Aim of this program

The aim of this program is for Japanese and American research teams to break new ground and demonstrate a high level of synergy in chemical research. JSPS provides financial support to excellent Japanese scientists implementing such bilateral joint projects between research teams from Japan and the US.

(2) Targeted Research Fields

Chemical Synthesis; Chemical Catalysis; Theory, Models and Computational Methods; Chemical Measurement and Imaging; Chemical Structure, Dynamics and Mechanisms; Macromolecular, Supramolecular and Nanochemistry; Environmental Chemical Sciences; Chemistry of Life Processes

(3) Project Period

3 years (Starting date must be in or before September 2012)

(4) Funding from JSPS

Up to JPY 15,000,000 per fiscal year (Up to JPY 45,000,000 for three years)

(5) Number of Projects slated to start in FY2012

1-2 project(s)

## -b. Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE)-

### (1) Aim of this program

In cooperation with NSF, this program provides funding for international joint research carried between excellent researchers in Japanese universities and institutes and their US counterparts. The program implements joint research projects on issues difficult to solve by one country alone. In carrying out the joint projects, a synergistic effect is sought by such means as sharing resources and research facilities.

### (2) Targeted Research Fields

Supported are projects related to sustainability in all fields of the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences<sup>1</sup>. In the FY2012 recruitment, special consideration will be given to topics related to the Great East Japan Earthquake that struck in March 2011.

### (3) Project Period

5 years (Starting date must be in or before October 2012)

### (4) Funding from JSPS

Up to JPY 5,000,000 per fiscal year

### (5) Number of Projects slated to start in FY2012

4-5 projects

## 2. Eligibility of Japanese applicants

Applicants must hold a full-time or equivalent position as a researcher at a university or research institute in Japan. (Eligible institutions are listed at:

<https://www.kokusai.jps.go.jp/jsps1/kikanList.do> (Posted only in Japanese.)

## 3. Financial Terms

### (1) Expenses supported by JSPS

Research Expenses: Equipment costs, travel costs (transportation, living allowances), salaries, others

\* JSPS will cover these costs for the Japanese team, and the NSF will cover them for the US team.

\* Japanese researchers' living allowances in the US, regardless of the duration of their stays in the US, will be regarded as costs for the Japanese team, while US researchers' living allowances in Japan, regardless of the duration of their stays in Japan, will be regarded as costs for the US team.

### (2) Project Funding

1) JSPS consigns the administration of projects to the Japanese Principal Investigator's (PI) affiliated institution.

2) Consignment and examination of the budget is to be conducted on a per-fiscal-year basis.

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<sup>1</sup> All research fields are eligible that contribute to solutions regarding issues that confront society without placing a burden on the environment or the next generation.

(3) Consignment Fee

Consignment fee may be paid in an amount up to 10% of the project's research budget.

#### 4. Application procedure

This program has a two-step screening process.

(1) 'Preliminary Proposals': Preliminary screening process is conducted only on the NSF side, so Japanese Principal Investigators (PIs) need not submit a 'Preliminary Proposal' to JSPS.

Japanese researchers who wish to apply for this program are to contact their counterpart US researchers to make sure that they submit a preliminary proposal to NSF.  
The closing date for accepting preliminary proposals at NSF is:

-a. JSPS-NSF International Collaborations in Chemistry (ICC)-

**4 November 2011**

-b. Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE)-

**19 October 2011**

NSF will inform the US PIs of the preliminary screening results **around December 2011 (ICC) / around February 2012 (PIRE)**. JSPS will contact only the Japanese PIs whose proposals are successful.

Only the proposals that pass NSF's preliminary screening may be submitted to both JSPS and NSF as Full Proposals. Please refer to the 'Full Proposals' section below.

(2) 'Full Proposals': Japanese PIs whose counterpart US PIs' preliminary proposals have been accepted by NSF should submit their full proposals to JSPS. Please follow the instruction below.

Although application forms for full proposals differ in format between NSF and JSPS, the contents of the two proposals submitted to NSF and JSPS by a research group should be the same. If the contents of the two proposals are found to be different, screening or selection of the project may be cancelled.

1) On-line application system

JSPS receives applications via its on-line application system. For details, please refer to [http://www.shinsei.jps.go.jp/topkokusai/top\\_kokusai.html](http://www.shinsei.jps.go.jp/topkokusai/top_kokusai.html) (Posted only in Japanese.)

Institutions that have already received an institutional ID for JSPS international programs do not need to apply for another one specifically for this program.

2) Instructions for on-line application system

Screening will be conducted under the 8 different fields in the list of subject codes.\* Please note that researchers whose research is in a combined or interdisciplinary field should select one of the 8 fields in which they would like their proposal to be screened.

\*Please refer to <http://www.shinsei.jps.go.jp/bunkasaimoku-b/> (Posted only in Japanese.)

3) Period for accepting applications

- a. JSPS-NSF International Collaborations in Chemistry (ICC)-  
**From 16 December 2011 through 11 January 2012**
- b. Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE)-  
**From 10 April 2012 through 15 May 2012**

\* Please note that the applicants' affiliated institutions may set earlier deadlines.

#### 4) Supplementary document

Japanese PIs are to submit the following supplementary document to JSPS:

- A full version of the American PI's application (full proposal) to NSF

### 5. Other instructions

- (1) PIs on the US side are to submit their applications to NSF. Please confirm the application procedure with the NSF contact person noted in Section 13.
- (2) Researchers eligible to receive JSPS financial support under this program are as follows:
  - Researchers conducting research at eligible research institutions in Japan as noted in Section 2 (including postdoctoral researchers and students in doctoral or master courses who are sufficiently capable and experienced to carry out the projects).

As one aim of this program is to foster a variety of human resources capable of playing active international roles, it is desirable to allow young researchers' active participation in projects.

- (3) Japanese PIs are not allowed to apply for both the ICC and PIRE Programs.
- (4) The Japanese PI is not allowed to hold a collateral position as a coordinator, research representative, or chief seminar organizer under following JSPS programs: Bilateral Programs (Joint Research Projects and Seminars)\*, G8 Research Councils Initiative, Japanese - German Graduate Externship, JSPS Core-to-Core Program (old), Asian CORE Program, AA Science Platform Program, new Core-to-Core Program, A3 Foresight Program, International Training Program (ITP), Institutional Program for Young Researcher Overseas Visits, and Young Researcher Overseas Visits Program for Vitalizing Brain Circulation.

Researchers funded under the "Funding Program for Next Generation World—Leading Researchers (NEXT Program)," implemented by the Cabinet Office, Government of Japan, are not eligible to be the PI of a joint project under the ICC or PIRE Programs.

Regarding the PIRE Program, researchers who receive additional funding for PIRE under the "Strategic Basic Research Program" of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) are not eligible to be the PI of a joint project under this program.

\* As for the Bilateral Programs, only joint research projects/seminars with NSF are subject to this restriction.

- (5) Researchers who are currently, or have been, supported under any of JSPS's international programs in the past 5 years are required to describe the results or expected results of that research activity and, if any, its relevance to the project being applied for.

### 6. Selection criteria for JSPS review

The following criteria are utilized in selection process:

- Scientific excellence of projects
- Necessity of cooperation with the United States, added value gained, and mutual research advancement through transfer of knowledge and expertise
- Impact of outcomes on improving the quality of life, contributing to socioeconomic development, and/or solving prevailing social issues
- Participation of young researchers and contribution to fostering them
- Feasibility and concreteness of the research plan and expectation of its advancing the research

The following NSF criteria are also taken into account:

- What is the intellectual merit of the proposed activity?
- What are the broader impacts of the proposed activity?

In addition to the above criteria, the following points are also considered:

- Description of detailed research plan for achieving the project objective
- Appropriateness of the budget plan

## **7. Selection procedure**

(1) At JSPS, the screening process is conducted in two stages: A document review by referees and a panel review that decides which proposals to refer to NSF. JSPS and NSF then make the final selections jointly. JSPS notifies the results to the Japanese applicants around August 2012.

(2) Projects that are not selected will receive the following evaluation results:

Declined A: Higher scores among the declined projects

Declined B: Average scores among the declined projects

Declined C: Lower scores among the declined projects

(3) Results can also be obtained using JSPS's on-line application system.

## **8. Post-selection funding request to JSPS**

Upon selection, Japanese principal investigators must submit an implementation plan and funding request using the prescribed form through their research institutions. JSPS will make funding allocations based on these documents and/or its budgetary condition each fiscal year. (There may be cases when a project does not receive the maximum amount of funding based on the assessment of the research plan and JSPS's budgetary limitations.)

## **9. Obligation of Japanese principal investigators and their affiliated institutions**

(1) Project funds allocated by JSPS are to be administered by the institution with which JSPS has concluded a consignment agreement and to which the PI is affiliated.

(2) PIs must submit a report by the prescribed due date.

(3) Due acknowledgement of support by JSPS and counterpart organizations should be made in any publication resulting from the projects.

(4) Upon completion of a project, a research report will be evaluated by JSPS's International

Program Committee. (ICC Only)

## 10. Measures against misuse of research funds, etc.

JSPS will take appropriate measures (e.g. terminate project, require reimbursement of part or all of allocated funds) in cases of misuse of research funds, improper practices (e.g. fabrication, falsification, plagiarization), unjustifiable acts (e.g. discrimination, harassment), or violation of laws.

Please refer to the attached document\* regarding appropriate use of competitive funds. (\*Japanese only)

## 11. Handling of personal information

Personal information provided by applicants will be handled according to the "Act for the Protection of Personal Information Retained by Independent Administrative Institutions" and JSPS's "Personal Information Protection Policy," and be used solely for the purpose of implementing the program.

The names and affiliations of the PIs, project titles and reports may be disclosed on JSPS's website and in its publications.

## 12. Others

- (1) JSPS will not bear responsibility for any injury, sickness or accident incurred during travel related to the projects/seminars.
- (2) PIs on both sides are obligated to ensure the protection and proper distribution of intellectual property resulting from projects, in accordance with the laws and regulations of their countries.
- (3) JSPS does not support any research project related to military affairs.

## 13. Contact information

-a. JSPS-NSF International Collaborations in Chemistry (ICC)-

### (1) JSPS Contact Information

Research Cooperation Division I  
International Program Department  
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)  
Tel. +81 (0)3-3263-1810  
Fax. +81 (0)3-3263-1673  
Email. [bottom-up@jps.go.jp](mailto:bottom-up@jps.go.jp)

### (2) NSF Contact Information

'International Collaboration Chemistry between US Investigators and their Counterpart Abroad (ICC)'  
Division of Chemistry  
Directorate for Mathematical & Physical Sciences  
National Science Foundation (NSF)  
Tel. +1 (0)703-292-7719  
Email. [rosenzw@nsf.gov](mailto:rosenzw@nsf.gov)

[http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub\\_summ.jsp?ods\\_key=nsf11585&org=NSF](http://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?ods_key=nsf11585&org=NSF)

-b. Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE)-

(1) JSPS Contact Information

Research Cooperation Division I  
International Program Department  
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)  
Tel. +81 (0)3-3263-1938  
Fax. +81 (0)3-3263-1673  
Email. PIRE@jps.go.jp

(2) NSF Contact Information

'Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE)'  
National Science Foundation (NSF)  
Tel. +1 (0)703-292-4940、 +1 (0)703-292-8712  
Email. PIRE-info@nsf.gov  
[http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm\\_summ.jsp?pims\\_id=12819](http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=12819)

National Science Foundation (NSF) Tokyo Regional Office  
Tel. +81 (0)3-3224-5504  
Email. kshinoha@nsf.gov