

JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Foreign Researchers FY 2012

Information Sheet

(January 2012)

An Award Letter is issued to the successful candidates. When carrying out the procedures for implementing your fellowship, please be sure to carefully read the Award Letter and the accompanying Program Guidelines.

JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Foreign Researchers

FY 2012

The JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Foreign Researchers provides opportunities for young postdoctoral researchers from other countries to conduct, under the guidance of their hosts, cooperative research with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions. The program allows such researchers to advance their own research while contributing to the progress of research in Japan and the counterpart countries.

1. FIELDS OF RESEARCH

All fields of the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences are included under this program.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Each candidate for the Fellowship must:

- 1) Possess either the nationality or citizenship of the nominating country or be a permanent resident of that country
- 2) Hold a doctorate degree when the Fellowship goes into effect, which must have been received within six years prior to April 1, 2012 (i.e. awarded on or after April 2, 2006), or be scheduled to receive a doctorate degree before the Fellowship goes into effect.
- 3) Have arranged in advance a research plan with his/her Japanese host.

[Note]

- Those who have previously been awarded a fellowship under the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Foreign Researchers (excluding Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (Short-term) for North American and European Researchers and the Summer Program) are not eligible.
- Those who do not meet the above nationality/citizenship requirement may apply for the program only if the competent nominating authority agrees to accept their applications. Such researchers may be nominated to JSPS so long as they do not reduce the number of nominees with eligible status. However, researchers of **Japanese nationality** are not eligible.
- Persons of Japanese nationality are not eligible to apply, nor are those of dual nationality if one is Japanese.
- MD (Medical Doctor) holders without a PhD degree are not eligible.

3. PERIOD

From 12 to 24 months (full months)

4. STARTING DATE

Fellows must start their Fellowship in Japan during the period of 1 April 2012 – 30 November 2012.

5. TERMS OF AWARD (FELLOWS ONLY)

- 1) A round-trip air ticket (based on JSPS regulations)
- 2) A monthly maintenance allowance of 362,000 yen.
- 3) A settling-in allowance of 200,000 yen
- 4) Overseas travel accident and sickness insurance coverage, etc.

[Note]

- The amounts of the Awards indicated above are subject to change.
- If the Fellow resides in Japan on the date his/her award letter is issued, the above-mentioned air

ticket to Japan and settling-in allowance will not be provided.

- A research grant, “Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research” (*Tokubetsu Kenkyuin Shorei-hi*) of up to 1,500,000 yen per year (total of 3,000,000 yen for two years) is available to cover cooperative research-related expenses. Application for these grants is made by the host researcher through his/her institution.

6. HOST RESEARCHERS AND HOST INSTITUTIONS IN JAPAN

- Host researchers in Japan must be employed full-time or classified as being employed full-time (excluding *Jokyo*, assistant professors, and *Joshu*, research assistants) at a university or research institution eligible to apply to MEXT for funding under the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research Program (*Kakenhi*) and approved by JSPS as an appropriate institution for hosting young foreign researchers. A list of host institutions is available on JSPS’s website.
- Candidates must have arranged in advance a research plan for their stay in Japan with their prospective host researcher.

[Note]

- Full-time employment classification is determined by the regulations of the host institution.

7. APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR THE PROGRAM

Applications for this program must be submitted to JSPS through an overseas nominating authority. Application process is as follows:

- 1) Contact is made between an overseas scientist who wishes to conduct cooperative research in Japan and his/her prospective host.
- 2) The overseas scientist submits an application to a nominating authority.
- 3) Nominating authority selects the candidates and nominates them to JSPS.
- 4) Approximately three months after receiving an application, JSPS will send out a notice of selection decision to both the candidate and submitting nominating authority.

[Note]

- JSPS does not find or introduce host researchers.
- Application deadlines and selection procedures differ by each nominating authority.
- When setting the starting date of fellowships, adequate time should be allowed for application processing: e.g., application screening by the nominating authority and selection decision-making by JSPS.
- Apart from receiving applications through overseas nominating authorities, JSPS also accepts applications from Japanese researchers who agree to host an overseas postdoctoral researcher (open recruitment). For details on this application channel, please see our website:
<http://www.jsp.go.jp/english/e-fellow/fellow.html>

8. MATERIALS TO BE SUBMITTED

- 1) Application form (research data) written by each candidate (Format 2-Postdoc)
- 2) A letter of acceptance/invitation from the candidate’s prospective host researcher in Japan, stating that he/she accepts the candidate at his/her institution during the period of the fellowship tenure.
- 3) A letter of reference/recommendation from the candidate’s current or previous supervisor (not from his/her prospective host researcher in Japan).
- 4) A copy of the candidate’s PhD degree diploma or the original PhD certificate. If the degree has not yet been awarded, a letter is required from the candidate’s institution stating **the date** that he/she will officially receive the degree.
- 5) Supplementary documents (if necessary)

[Note]

- The application form submitted must be the original.
- All documents must be in either English or Japanese. When the original document is in another language, please be sure to attach an English translation (which does not need to be an official translation, but may be done by the host or candidate).

- With regard to section “13. Research Theme in Japan” in the application form, the entry must be within 100 letters including spaces and symbols.

9. OBLIGATION

- 1) So as to allow the smooth progress of research in Japan, sufficient consultation should be carried out between the candidate and his/her prospective host researcher in advance on the conditions at the host laboratory, including his/her status under the fellowship. Mutual agreement regarding these conditions should be secured.
- 2) As a rule, the fellowship awardees (fellows) shall stay in Japan continuously during the tenure of their fellowships and concentrate on their research at the host institution. Fellows may, however, suspend their fellowships for the purpose of childbearing or infant nursing. Fellows may not engage in other work, neither paid nor unpaid, during their tenures.
- 3) The fellows and their host researchers must submit two research reports: (1) an interim report at the 12-month juncture of the fellow's tenure, and (2) a final report within one month of the completion of his/her tenure.

10. HANDLING OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

With regard to personal information contained in the application materials, it shall be strictly controlled in accordance with laws governing the protection of personal information by administrative institutions and JSPS's rules for protecting personal information. When using personal information in implementing the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Foreign Researchers, including the provision of such information to private companies commissioned to conduct data processing management, JSPS shall observe these laws and regulations.

[Note]

- The names of the awardees and their host researchers as well as their research themes and reports are subject to public disclosure.
- The awardees will also be asked to participate in surveys aimed at improving the fellowship program.

11. NOTES

- The same person may not simultaneously be a candidate for both this postdoctoral fellowship and a JSPS Invitation Fellowship for Research in Japan.
- Should JSPS determine any information in an application to be falsified, plagiarized or otherwise flawed, the application will be rejected or, if already awarded, the fellowship withdrawn.
- JSPS does not support any research related to military affairs.