

JSPS International Fellowships for Research in Japan

Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan Invitational Fellowships for Research in Japan FY 2026 (2026-2027) Application Guidelines

These guidelines are a translation of the original Japanese text into English. If any differences in wording or interpretation should occur between Japanese and English, the Japanese guidelines will take precedence.

OUTLINE OF FELLOWSHIPS

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) carries out programs that provide excellent researchers from other countries an opportunity to conduct collaborative research, discussions, and opinion exchanges with researchers in Japan. These programs are intended to help advance the overseas researchers' research activities while advancing science and promoting internationalization in Japan.

FIELDS OF RESEARCH

All fields of the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences are included under these programs.

CATEGORIES

Various fellowship categories are provided to accord with the purposes of the overseas researchers' visits to Japan.

Categories		Purposes (Duration of Fellowships)	Page
Postdoctoral Fellowships	Standard [P]	Provides opportunities for excellent postdoctoral researchers from other countries to conduct cooperative research under the guidance of their hosts with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions. (12 to 24 months)	11
	Short-term [PE]	Provides opportunities for pre-/post-doctoral researchers from the US, Canada and Europe to conduct cooperative research under the guidance of their hosts with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions. (1 to 12 months)	15
Invitational Fellowships	Long-term [L]	Provides opportunities for overseas researchers with excellent records of research achievements to conduct collaborative research with Japanese colleagues through long-term visits. (2 to 10 months)	19
	Short-term [S]	Provides opportunities for overseas researchers with excellent records of research achievements to visit Japan short-term for discussions, opinion exchanges, lectures, and other activities. (14 to 60 days)	22

Names of fellowship programs are abbreviated to the letter(s) contained in brackets [] below.

Notice

1. False information, etc. in the application form

Should JSPS determine any information in an application to be falsified, plagiarized or otherwise flawed, including a forged signature, the application will be rejected or, if already awarded, the fellowship withdrawn.

2. Response to acts of research misconduct and funding misuse

Measures such as the termination of application screening, cancellation of selection decisions, requirement to refund part or all of already allocated funding may be taken when researchers or others are determined to have done the following: misused research funds or committed specific research misconduct (forgery, falsification, plagiarism) when conducting research activities; committed any form of human rights violation (e.g. racial discrimination, gender discrimination, sexual harassment, academic harassment, power harassment, abuse of authority, neglect); violated laws; made false statements in an application (including an unauthorized diversion of signature).

Please refer to the following for JSPS's "Rules for Responding to Misconduct and Misuse of Funds in Research Activities" (Enacted on December 6, 2006 (Rule No. 19 of 2006)).

https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/guideline/data/regulation_e.pdf

3. System for implementing the "Guidelines for Responding to Misconduct in Research"

When making proposals to JSPS and conducting research activities, research institutions are to follow the "Guidelines for Responding to Misconduct in Research" (adopted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), August 26, 2014). If MEXT judges via the results of an inspection that a research institution's system is inadequate or defective, it or an independent administrative institution under MEXT's jurisdiction may cut or reduce the indirect budget allocation of the institution's competitive funding.

Please refer to the "Guidelines for Responding to Misconduct in Research" in the following website:

https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/jinzai/fusei/1359618.htm

4. Research ethics education coursework

To promote the proper conduct of research activities and prevent misconduct in advance, it is first necessary to raise the level of researcher ethics within research institutions. Host institutions (applicants' (host researchers' institutions) are therefore to establish educational courses for candidates (invited overseas researchers) to take in research ethics.

(References) Learning materials on avoiding misconduct in research activities

• *For the Sound Development of Science—The Attitude of a Conscientious Scientist*

by Editing Committee of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-kousei/ethics.html>

• e-Learning Course on Research Ethics [eL CoRE]

<https://elcore.jsps.go.jp/top.aspx>

• APRIN e-learning program (eAPRIN)

<https://www.aprin.or.jp/en>

• Research ethics courses conducted by institutions based on the "Guidelines for Responding to Misconduct in Research" (Adopted by MEXT, August 26, 2014)

5. Handling of personal information

Personal information contained in application materials will be strictly controlled in accordance with the "Act on the Protection of Personal Information" and JSPS's own regulations for protecting personal information. JSPS uses such information exclusively for the purpose of implementing its programs. (JSPS may use personal data when disseminating information about its operations and programs, and it may entrust personal data to external companies for the purpose of conducting electronic processing and management of the data.)

If selected for a fellowship, candidates (invited overseas researchers) should note that their name, nationality, title and affiliated organization, research theme, fellowship tenure, host institution, applicant's (host researcher's) name and title, and research reports may be given public access.

For researchers located within the European Economic Area including the EU and in the UK, their agreement is to be obtained to follow the above-stated "handling of personal information" in line with the "General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and "United Kingdom General Data Protection Regulation" ."

6. Use of Generative AI

Using generative AI when preparing your application risks an unintentional infringement of copyrights and leakage of personal or confidential information. It is the applicant's responsibility to consider this risk when deciding whether to use generative AI.

7. Ensuring Research Integrity Against New Risks as a Consequence of the Globalization and Openness of Research Activities

In order to promote the augment of science, technology, and innovation in Japan, we must continue to enhance overseas joint research with various partners based on the principle of open science. Concurrently, the new risks as a consequence of the globalization and openness of research activities have been possible to impair the basis of research environment such as openness and transparency, and to unknowingly involve researchers to take risk of a conflict of interest or a conflict of responsibilities. In such climate, it is vital for our country to build a globally reliable research environment to protect the values that constitute the basis of research environment while encouraging necessary global collaboration and international exchanges.

Therefore, universities and institutions are required to establish regulations/rules and control management related to the conflict of interest and the conflict of responsibility based on "Policy on Measures to Ensure Research Integrity Against New Risks as a Consequence of the Globalization and Openness of Research Activities (April 27, 2021, Decision of Council for Science, Technology and Innovation)." It is significantly essential for researchers and universities/institutions to proactively ensure the research integrity in each research activity.

8. Security Trade Control (Preventing technology leakage outside Japan)

Much research on cutting-edge technologies is being conducted in Japan's research institutions. Along with Japan's advancing internationalization, there has been an increase in the number of foreign students and overseas researchers residing in Japan. This has increased the risk of advanced technologies and research materials and equipment leaking out and for them to be used in the development and production of weapons of mass destruction (WMD). Therefore, when research institutions conduct research activities of any kind, including the contracted program, they should take systematic measure to keep research results and products that can be diverted to military use out of the hands of WMD developers, terrorist groups, and other persons whose activities are suspect.

In Japan, export controls (*1) are carried out under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (Act No. 228 of 1949) (hereinafter referred to as "FEFTA"). Therefore, in principle, in order to export (provide) goods and technologies regulated by the FEFTA, it is necessary to obtain permission of the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry. Starting with the FEFTA, fellows must follow all of Japan's pertinent laws and ordinances, guidelines, and directives. If research is conducted in violation of these laws and ordinances, measures and penalties prescribed in them may be enforced along with the termination of the Fellow's research funding or their scheduled allocation of research funding.

(*1) Export controls

Japan's Security Export Control System established on the basis of international agreements mainly consists of (1) "List Control" which requires permission of the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry in principle when exporting goods or providing technologies that carry specifications and/or functions higher than certain levels, such as carbon fiber and numerically controlled machine tools, etc., and (2) "Catch-all regulation" which requires permission of the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry when exporting goods or providing technologies that are not subject to regulation under the List control but do fall under certain regulatory requirements (application requirements, consumer requirements and/or informed requirements).

Not only export of goods but also provision of technology can be subject to regulation under the FEFTA. When providing a "List control" technologies to nonresidents (including residents in the Specific Categories (*2)) or providing it in a foreign country, prior permission for the provision is required. "Provision of technologies" includes not only providing technical information such as design drawings, specifications, manuals, samples, and prototypes via storage media such as paper, mail, CD, USB memory, but also providing work knowledge and technical assistance at seminars through technical instruction, skill training, etc.

Researchers should be aware that there may be cases in which technologies subject to regulation under the FEFTA are involved when mentoring foreign students and/or doing joint research activities with overseas groups. Please also bear in mind that the provision of technologies acquired in the contracted program or the provision of technologies already in possession with the use of the contracted program may also be subject to restrictions.

(*2) The term "Specific Categories" refers to the types of residents that are heavily influenced by nonresidents. It

also indicates the specific types of residents who fall under the clauses in 1 (3)Sa ① thru ③ of the “Notification for Transactions or Acts of Transferring Technology Requiring Permission pursuant to Article 25 (1) of the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (FEFTA) and Article 17 (2) of the Foreign Exchange Order (FOE)”

In accordance with FEFTA, a security export control structure must be established when exporting List Control Goods or providing List Control Technologies to a foreign country. (*3) For this reason, prior to entering into a contract (when the grant decision is made), Fellows may be asked if they have any plans to export goods and/or technologies that are subject to export restrictions under the FEFTA as a result of this contracted program and, if there is an intent to export, they will be asked whether or not there is a management system in place to control such exports.

(*3) Exporters are mandated to comply with the “Compliance Requirements for Exporters” set forth in Article 55-10 (1) of the FEFTA. The security export control structure here refers to an organization's internal control system to prevent unauthorized exports and other acts by appropriately exporting List Control Goods or providing List Control Technologies to foreign countries, based on the control system in the “Compliance Requirements for Exporters”.

For details on Security Export Control, please see the following websites.

- Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry: Security Export Control (General)

URL: <http://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/>

- Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry: “Handbook on Security Export Control”

URL: <https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/seminer/shiryo/handbook.pdf>

- Center for Information on Security Export Controls

URL: <https://www.cistec.or.jp/index.html>

- “Guidance for the Control of Sensitive Technologies for Security Export for Academic and Research Institutions 3rd Edition”

URL: https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/law_document/tutatu/t07sonota/t07sonota_jishukanri03.pdf

- Notification for Transactions or Acts of Transferring Technology Requiring Permission pursuant to Article 25 (1) of the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act and Article 17 (2) of the Foreign Exchange Order

URL: https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/law_document/tutatu/t10kaisei/ekimu_tutatu.pdf

9. Strict Enforcement of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2321

Regarding the strict implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions, a request has been made via the document “Strict Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2321” (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, International Affairs Division, Administrative Notice, dated June 25, 2024). Paragraph 11 of Resolution 2321 stipulates, as a general principle, the suspension of scientific and technological cooperation involving individuals or organizations that are officially supported by or represent North Korea.

When writing internationally co-authored papers involving multiple countries, there is a possibility of unintended co-authorship with North Korean researchers, even when there is no direct collaboration between researchers affiliated with your institution and those from North Korea. Therefore, ensure that thorough verification is carried out during the manuscript drafting stage and before paper submission, and take appropriate measures accordingly.

For information on UN Security Council Resolution 2321, please refer to the following link:

<https://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/files/000211409.pdf>

10. Undergoing External Verification in accordance with the Basic Guidelines for Proper Conduct of Animal Experiments

Undergoing External Verification in accordance with the Basic Guidelines for Proper Conduct of Animal Experiments

Research institutions such as universities that conduct animal experiments are required to comply with the “Basic Guidelines for Proper Conduct of Animal Experiments at Research Institutions” (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Notification No. 71, 2006, hereinafter referred to as the “Basic Guidelines”). In particular, the Basic Guidelines emphasize the proper conduct of animal experiments based on the 3Rs principle: use of alternatives (Replacement), reduction in the number of animals used (Reduction), and refinement of procedures to minimize pain and distress (Refinement).

In particular, the Basic Guidelines stipulate that the head of a research institution shall ensure transparency in the implementation of animal experiments by regularly inspecting and evaluating the institution’s compliance with the Basic Guidelines. Additionally, it’s stipulated that effort should be made to have the results of these inspections and evaluations verified by external parties outside the institution. If when applying for this program your research involves animal experimentation, ensure that your affiliated research institution undergoes external verification. If only certain facilities within your affiliated research institution have undergone external verification, ensure that

the institution as a whole undergoes the verification process.

Basic Guidelines for Proper Conduct of Animal Experiments at Research Institutions (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Notification No. 71, 2006)
https://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/hakusho/nc/06060904.htm

11. Japan Pre-Entry Tuberculosis Screening (JPETS)

In view of the situation of Tuberculosis (TB) cases in Japan, Pre-Entry TB screening has been introduced to nationals of countries with a particularly large number of TB cases in Japan, who intend to enter Japan and stay for a medium- to long-term, to ensure that they do not have active TB before traveling to Japan.

TB screening applies to nationals of countries (the Philippines, Viet Nam, Indonesia, Nepal, Myanmar, and China*) with a large proportion of foreign-born cases diagnosed with TB during their stay in Japan who intend to enter and stay in Japan as a “mid- to long-term residents”** (excluding re-entry permit holder) or under the provisions of Notifications No. 53 (Digital Nomad) or No. 54 (Spouse or Child of Digital Nomad) “Designated Activities.”

* As of April 2025, TB screening commencing date for the nationals of Indonesia, Myanmar and China are under coordination. Commencing date will be announced when start date is confirmed.

** “Mid- to long-term residents” refers to individuals specified in Article 19-3 of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act (foreign nationals who are residing in Japan with a status of residence, excluding those who fall into one of the following categories: (1) a person who has been granted a period of stay of not exceeding three months; (2) a person who has been granted the status of residence of “Temporary Visitor”; (3) a person who has been granted the status of residence of “Diplomat” or “Official”; and (4) a person prescribed by Ministry of Justice Order as being equivalent to a person mentioned in (1) through (3)).

For more information about JPETS, please visit the website of Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan.
https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryuu/kenkou/kekaku-kansenshou03/english.html

12. Approximate number of fellowships awarded and amounts of financial support

The approximate number of fellowships awarded and amounts of financial support are subject to change for budgetary reasons.

13. Obligations and procedures after being provisionally selected

Candidates (invited overseas researchers), applicants (host researchers) and host institutions should read the “Program Guidelines” for information on their obligations under the program, procedures to be carried out, and rules to be followed (e.g. conditions for taking temporary leaves of absence, for using the research support allowance). You may refer to the Program Guidelines posted below.

Postdoctoral Fellowships: https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/guideline_03.html

Invitational Fellowships: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/guideline.html>

14. FAQ

FAQ on this program are provided on the following websites. Please refer to them if there is something unclear to you with regard to making an application or procedures to follow after you are selected.

Postdoctoral Fellowships: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/faq.html>

Invitational Fellowships: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/faq.html>

Procedure

1. JSPS Electronic Application System

Applicants (host researchers) are required to use the JSPS Electronic Application System for International Collaborations when applying for fellowships. (Applications sent by postal mail are not accepted.)

Applicants (host researchers) should ask their host institution to issue them an ID and password for the electronic application system. If they have already obtained an ID and password, they do not need to ask their institution to issue new ones.

JSPS Electronic Application System: https://www.shinsei.jps.go.jp/topkokusai/top_kokusai.html

2. Applicant (host researcher) and Candidate (invited overseas researcher) Eligibility

The applicant (host researcher) and host institution should verify that the applicant (host researcher) and candidate (invited overseas researcher) satisfy their respective application eligibility requirements.

As the application eligibility requirements differ by program, please refer to each program page in these Application Guidelines.

If the applicant (host researcher) should commit an unethical act and be punished via measures imposed by the host institution, they will be restricted from applying for a JSPS International Fellowship for a period of five years starting from the day that the punishment is administered.

3. Review Section and Selection Process

The applicant (host researcher) is to choose the category in which they want the application to be screened from the Review Section Table. When doing so please refer to the “Review Section Set,” which pairs the review section with the reviewers who will carry out the screening.

Screening is carried out by the JSPS International Program Committee through both document and panel reviews. Please refer to JSPS’s website for more details on the “Review Section Table,” “Review Section Set,” and the selection process.

“Review Section Table” and “Review Section Set”

Postdoctoral Fellowships: <https://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/application.html>

Invitational Fellowships: <https://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-inv/application/guideline.html>

Selection Process

Postdoctoral Fellowships (Standard): <https://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-ippa/selectionprocess.html>

Postdoctoral Fellowships (Short): <https://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/e-oubei-s/selectionprocess.html>

Invitational Fellowships: <https://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-inv/selectionprocess.html>

4. Restrictions on Parallel Application/Receipt

As many researchers must be supported under this program with limited financial resources, limits are placed on the number of applications that may be submitted at one time.

(1) Parallel Application by the Candidate (Invited overseas researcher)

- 1) For open calls whose application deadlines of JSPS fall on the same date, if a candidate (invited overseas researcher) has submitted applications through different applicants (host researchers), JSPS can accept only one application.
- 2) As only one application is allowed per candidate (invited overseas researcher), a candidate may apply for only one of either [P], [L] or [S].
- 3) Candidates (invited overseas researchers) selected under the first recruitment for either [L] or [S] fellowships may not apply for an [S] fellowship under the second recruitment of the same fiscal year.

(2) Parallel Application by the Applicant (Host researcher)

- 1) For [P] and [PE] candidates (invited overseas researcher), under each recruitment one applicant (host researcher) may submit up to three applications.
- 2) For [L] and [S] candidates (invited overseas researchers), application is limited to one candidate for each recruitment.

First recruitment: application is limited to one in either [L] or [S].

Second recruitment: regardless of whether or not an application was submitted in the first recruitment, application is limited to one in [S].

5. Preparing an Application

Applications must be submitted to JSPS by an applicant (host researcher) in Japan via the host institution (applicant's (host researcher's) institution). (Individual applications from applicants (host researchers) or candidates (invited overseas researchers) are not accepted.)

Applicants (host researchers) and candidates (invited overseas researchers) are to prepare their applications using the prescribed form (which may differ by program). When preparing the form, make entries with regard to Human Right Protection and Legal Compliance (*). If the counterpart country has put in place immigration restrictions, etc., based on the situation at the time of application, to the degree possible estimate when the candidate will be able to travel to Japan and prepare the contents of the application in alignment with their planned arrival. If the applicant (host researcher) and/or the candidate (invited overseas researcher) is or has conducted international research activities related to the collaboration under this application, please apply them clearly.

When preparing your application, in addition to these JSPS Application Guidelines also be sure to refer to the "Instructions for the application forms" provided for each program on the JSPS website.

Postdoctoral Fellowships: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/application.html>

Invitational Fellowships: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/application/guideline.html>

(*) Issues Relevant to Human Right Protection and Legal Compliance

When the proposed research involves issues such as a requirement to obtain the research subject's consent or the cooperation of a third party, or consideration in the handling of personal information, or actions related bioethics and/or biosafety (including guidelines and policies used by the counterpart country in conducting international joint research and by the countries/regions in which the research will be implemented), describe the measures and actions planned for handling such issues. This applies to research activities that require approval by an internal or external information committee or ethics jury, such as for research involving questionnaire surveys, interviews and/or behavior surveys (including personal histories and images), surveys of domestic or overseas cultural properties, research involving personal information, the handling of donated specimens, invasive properties, human genome analysis, recombinant DNA, and experimentation with animals. In such cases, describe concretely the status of your processing and procedures in the application.

(1) Applicant (Host researcher)

Please send (submit) your application form using (via) the JSPS Electronic Application System by the deadline prescribed by the host institution (some institutions may set their own deadline more than one month before the application deadline set by JSPS).

(2) Candidate (invited overseas researcher)

Candidates are to prepare their applications together with the applicant (host researcher).

(3) Person in charge at the host institution

The institution's applications are to be sent (submitted) to the president of JSPS by the application deadline set for each program. Before sending them, the applications should be approved by the head of the host institution along with the below-stated requirements (*) with which the host institution is to comply. When submitting the applications, first check the "List of Candidates" on the JSPS Electronic Application System to verify that their registered information is correct. Sending (submitting) the institution's applications to JSPS is considered to mean that the head of the host institution has accepted the candidates (invited overseas researchers) to the host institution.

If an application is sent (submitted) after the prescribed application deadline, it will not be accepted. Therefore, please send (submit) applications with plenty of time in advance.

(*) Requirements for the head of the host institution when the institution's applications are approved by JSPS

- Verify to JSPS that the host institution has accepted the candidates (invited overseas researchers).
- Notify the applicants (host researchers) and the candidates (invited overseas researchers) of JSPS's and the host institution's rules against improper conduct in research activities and in the use of funding, including penalties for violations, and commit them to strictly observing these rules.
- Acquire an understanding of and an agreement to the stipulations in the Application Guidelines with regard to the handling of personal information.

As the information (e.g. candidate's name, nationality and date of birth) entered in the electronic application system will be printed on the certificate issued when the candidate is selected, be sure that the information is entered correctly. If there should be a difference in the spelling of the candidate's name or other information, JSPS will neither seek to confirm the proper spelling nor check with the host institution. Host

institutions should submit applications after checking that all of the information contained in them is accurate.

6. Withdrawal of the Application

If, after applying for the program but before being notified of the selection result, it becomes undesirable to be selected for the program due to various circumstances, the person in charge at the host institution must contact JSPS immediately to complete the withdrawal process.

7. Notification of selection results

The president of JSPS will notify the head of the host institutions electronically or in writing of the selection results. JSPS will send an award letter and related documents for successful applicants (host researchers) and candidates (invited overseas researchers) to host institutions. The selection results will be disclosed on the JSPS Electronic Application System. The names of the successful applicants and candidates and their research themes, etc. will be posted on JSPS's website.

Unsuccessful candidates (invited overseas researchers) are not directly notified of their selection results. Applicants (host researchers) should notify them of the results.

Individual requests for selection results are not accepted.

Successful candidates (invited overseas researchers) must start their fellowship during the period specified in their Award Letter. If not, the fellowship will be revoked.

8. Release of results

Applicants (host researchers) of [P], [L] and [S] fellowships can see their approximate ranking among all the unsuccessful applications on the JSPS Electronic Application System.

Rankings:

Non-selected A (upper 20 % of the non-selected application in the panel review section you applied.)

Non-selected B (upper 21~50% of the non-selected application in the panel review section you applied.)

Non-selected C (application which has not reached the upper 50% of the non-selected application in the panel review section you applied.)

OBLIGATION OF APPLICANTS, CANDIDATES AND HOST INSTITUTIONS

The applicants (host researchers), candidates (invited overseas researchers) and host institutions should bear the following ten points in mind when applying for the program, and should observe them if selected for a fellowship. After selection, they will be expected to observe the regulations and procedures stipulated in the “Program Guidelines” for the adopted program. If either the fellow or host researcher should fail to do so, the fellowship may be withdrawn, allowances (including airfares) stopped, and already-paid allowances (including research grants) reclaimed.

- (1) So as to allow the smooth progress of the candidate’s research in Japan, before submitting an application, the applicant (host researcher) is to fully inform the candidate of the conditions at the host laboratory, including their status under the fellowship, and ascertain the candidate’s agreement to accept those conditions.
- (2) The applicant (host researcher) will, in cooperation with the administration office of the host institution, provide a suitable arrangement for the candidate to pursue their joint research and other research activities. The applicant (host researcher) will also assist the candidate, when needed, with immigration processing (including applying for a “certificate of eligibility”), securing domicile and other matters related to their stay in Japan.
- (3) During the fellowship tenure, the applicant (host researcher) is advised not to commit such acts equivalent to human rights violations (e.g. discrimination, gender discrimination, sexual harassment, academic harassment, power harassment, abuse of authority, neglect) and should be particularly careful not to say or do anything that could be interpreted as committing such acts. If a researcher should commit such an unethical act and be punished via measures imposed by the host institution, they will be restricted from applying for the JSPS International Fellowship for a period of five years starting from the day that the punishment is administered.
- (4) During the fellowship tenure, candidates shall not, either in or outside the host institution, infringe in any way on the human rights of others, including racial or gender discrimination or other forms of abuse.
- (5) As a rule, candidates are to stay in Japan continuously during the tenure of their fellowships, concentrating on their research and not engaging in other work*. [P] and [PE] candidates may, however, suspend their fellowships for the purpose of childbearing, infant nursing or injury/illness. [L] and [S] may suspend their fellowships..
- (6) Applicants (host researcher) and candidates shall follow the rules established by the host institution and JSPS that prohibit acts of research misconduct (e.g. fabricating or falsifying research results) and the misuse of research funds.
- (7) The candidate and applicant (host researcher) must submit a research report using separately prescribed formats before the deadline set by JSPS.
- (8) When candidates present or publish the content or results of research conducted under the fellowship, the JSPS fellowship should be acknowledged.
- (9) The host institution shall inform both the applicant (host researcher) and the candidate of the rules that it and JSPS have established to prevent research misconduct (e.g. fabricating or falsifying research results) and misuse of research funds (e.g. personal use of funds, use of funds for other purposes) and of the penalties for violations. It shall take action to see that these rules are obeyed.
- (10) The host institution is to take primary responsibility for the candidate’s actions, so it must be proactive in preventing any human rights violations, research misconduct or misuse of research funds on the part of the candidate during their tenure. If any such problems should occur, the host institution will endeavor to resolve them. If requested by JSPS, it is to report such problems.

(*) Types of activities that are not included in above-noted “other work”

Only the following activities are allowed to be carried out as a part of the candidates’ research activities during their tenure. However, candidates must not be hired for conducting these activities.

Before conducting these activities, candidates must obtain approval from their applicants (host researcher) ensuring that the activities will not hinder the performance of their research.

- 1) Activities such as research-related teaching to students at host institutions.
- 2) Participating in a research project closely related to the candidate's research title.
- 3) Taking part in outreach activities that are relevant to the candidate's research title.
- 4) Taking part in events organized by JSPS for candidates.

Postdoctoral Fellowship (Standard) [P]

1. PURPOSE

To provide opportunities for excellent postdoctoral researchers from other countries to conduct cooperative research under the guidance of their hosts with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions.

2. DURATION OF FELLOWSHIPS

12 to 24 months

This fellowship is provided in full month units.

Note 1: The fellowship period covers the period from the day a candidate (invited overseas researcher) coming from abroad arrives at an airport in Japan, which is the day that the fellowship starts, to the day that the fellow departs from an airport in Japan, which is the day that the fellowship ends. (This does not apply to fellows who reside in Japan before or after the fellowship period.)

Note 2: As a fellow's tenure may start anytime during the period stated in the Application Guidelines, there are cases when it will end in the following fiscal year.

Note 3: The fellow must reside in Japan continuously over the duration of the fellowship. The duration of the fellowship may not be divided into multiple stays.

3. APPLICATION DEADLINES and APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

Deadlines for host institutions to submit applications to JSPS are as follows. Each host institution may have its own application deadlines, which can be more than one month before those set by JSPS. Applicants (host researchers) should check the deadlines with the staff of the host institution in advance.

Recruitment	Application deadline (<u>from host institution to JSPS</u>)	Period for publishing selection results	Periods for arrival in Japan	Approximate number of fellowships awarded
1st	August 29, 2025 (by 5 p.m. (JST))	Late December 2025	April 1, 2026- September 30, 2026	120
2nd	April 28, 2026 (by 5 p.m. (JST))	Early August 2026	September 1, 2026- November 30, 2026	120

*JSPS Electronic Application System will be available for use approximately two months before the application deadlines set by JSPS.

*The approximate number of fellowships to be awarded is subject to change for budgetary reasons.

4. APPLICANT (Host Researcher) ELIGIBILITY

Persons are eligible to apply who satisfy the following two conditions at the time of application, at the time of selection, and during the fellowship period.

- (1) Be affiliated with a research institution specified in Article 2(*) of the Procedure for the Handling of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI), issued by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) (*), be eligible to apply for a KAKENHI grant, and wish to host an overseas researcher.
- (2) Be a full-time researcher. However, researchers who are not employed full time may be eligible if the host institution judges them able to execute their responsibility to carrying out the program uninterruptedly throughout the fellow's tenure including providing them a suitable research environment (e.g. laboratory, space, facilities and personnel) in the same way that a full-time researcher would be able to do.

(*) Eligible host institutions specified under the above MEXT Procedure are as follows:

- 1) Universities and inter-university research institutes
- 2) MEXT-affiliated institutions engaged in research
- 3) Colleges of technology
- 4) Institutions designated by the Minister of MEXT

If it is known at the time of application that an applicant (host researcher) will retire due to reaching retirement age or other reason during a candidate's (invited overseas researcher's) fellowship tenure, an application should not be submitted for that candidate.

Each applicant (host researcher) may submit up to three applications.

5. CANDIDATE (Invited Overseas Researcher) ELIGIBILITY

Persons are eligible to apply who satisfy the following two conditions as of 1 April 2026 and during the fellowship period.

- (1) Be a citizen of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. (JSPS treats Taiwanese and Palestinian researchers in this manner.)
- (2) Have obtained a doctoral degree within six years of the date the fellowship goes into effect (on or after 2 April 2020). Whether or not the candidate is employed in a full-time position is not considered.

Note 1: For open calls whose application deadlines of JSPS fall on the same date, if a candidate (invited overseas researcher) has submitted applications through different applicants (host researchers), JSPS can accept only one application.

Note 2: Those who have previously been awarded and started a fellowship under the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Japan ([Standard (P)] and [Pathway to University positions in Japan (PU)]) are not eligible.

Note 3: Foreigners who have received a doctoral degree from a Japanese university and/or who reside in Japan with a Residence Card are eligible. Persons who are a Japanese citizen or are a foreigner living in Japan with permanent residence status are not eligible.

Note 4: Researchers who obtained their Ph.D. within six years minus time taken for maternity and/or parental leave. (Every four weeks of leave is counted as one month, with any remaining weeks also counted as one month. These months are subtracted from the number of years elapsed since the researcher's Ph.D. was received.) In this case, separate submission documents are required. Please consult with JSPS in advance via the host institution.

Note 5: If a candidate applies for the program in duplicate, through a recommendation from an Overseas Nominating Authority, and through the open call, once the candidate receives notification of acceptance for the program from one of the application channels, the other application must be withdrawn immediately.

Note 6: A person who has been selected as a fellow must submit a diploma or doctoral degree certificate to arrive at JSPS before the start of their fellowship. (Not required when submitting the application).

Note 7: If the diploma or certificate certifying that the candidate (invited overseas researcher) has received a doctoral degree is not received by JSPS by the deadline, the fellowship will be cancelled or withdrawn. Details are set out in the Program Guidelines.

Note 8: If it becomes known after being selected that a candidate (invited overseas researcher) does not possess application eligibility, their selection may be cancelled or eligibility terminated during the fellowship period. In such cases, the candidate (invited overseas researcher) may be required to reimburse JSPS their already-paid allowances.

6. TERMS OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The amounts of financial support are as follows. They are subject to change for budgetary reasons.

- (1) Airfare: A roundtrip air ticket (economy-class) (based on JSPS's regulations)
- (2) Maintenance Allowance: JPY 362,000 per month
- (3) Miscellaneous: A settling-in allowance of JPY 200,000, overseas travel insurance.

Note 1: For candidates (invited overseas researchers) staying in Japan before the fellowship starting date (and who have a mailing address), the "airfare" for the flight to Japan and the "settling-in allowance" will not be paid.

Note 2: A Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows) is available to cover cooperative research-related expenses. Application for this grant is made by the applicant (host researcher) through their institution. For details, please see the application guidelines for the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows.

7. APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR THIS PROGRAM

Applications must be submitted via JSPS Electronic Application System. The following procedure is to be carried out when applying for a fellowship. The application forms have the below-described characteristics.

Name of form	Person who prepares the form	Number of sheets	Contents	Preparation method
Form1	Applicant (Host)	4	Name, Affiliated organization, Research theme, Fellowship	Entered in electronic application system

	Researcher)		tenure, Purpose and significance of collaboration, Framework for hosting the invitee	
Form 2	Candidate (Invited Overseas Researcher)	7	Curriculum vitae, Research achievements and results, Research plan, Academic goals after the fellowship ends, career plans	Form (Word format) downloaded, and uploaded to electronic application system
Letter of Recommendation	Recommender of the candidate	1	Recommendation	Uploaded to electronic application system

JSPS Electronic Application System: https://www.shinsei.jsps.go.jp/topkokusai/top_kokusai.html

Form download: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/application.html>

Please prepare your applications using as reference the application form instructions and FAQ.

Instructions: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/application.html>

FAQ: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/faq.html>

Note 1: Except for places indicated otherwise, the forms may be filled out in either English or Japanese.

Note 2: Form 2 and the Letter of Recommendation should be uploaded in either PDF or Word format.

(1) Procedure for the applicant (host researcher)

- 1) Obtain the following form and letter from the candidate (invited overseas researcher).
 - a JSPS International Fellowships for Research in Japan: APPLICATION FORM FOR JSPS POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR RESEARCH IN JAPAN(STANDARD) (Form 2)
 - b Letter of Recommendation written and signed by the candidate's doctoral supervisor or other such person. (One-page letter. The writer of the letter must be a person other than the applicant (host researcher). Either sign the application or use a self-signed electronic image. A signature typed in a handwriting style font will not be accepted.)
- 2) Log in to the JSPS Electronic Application System and complete the application procedure on the system (enter Form 1 on the electronic application screen and upload the above **a** and **b** documents. Send (submit) them to the host institution by the application deadline it specifies.

(2) Procedure for the host institution

- 1) On the electronic application system, verify the content of the application submitted (transmitted) by the applicant (host researcher).
- 2) The applications must be approved by the head of the host institution along the requirements with which the host institution is to comply (as stated at "Procedure" 5(3)). Additionally, the "List of Candidates" must be verified. Then, please submit (send) the applications to JSPS by its application deadline.

8. SELECTION PROCESS

The selection is carried out through a document review in the first stage and a panel review in the second by the JSPS International Program Committee. Document reviews are conducted by six examiners for each application. Based on contents of the applications, experts in their subject fields are assigned to conduct the reviews. For more details, please see the following website.

Selection Process: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-ippan/selectionprocess.html>

SCREENING CRITERIA

- 1) That the collaboration will contribute to advancing science in Japan and other countries.
- 2) That the collaboration can be expected to advance both the candidate's and the applicant's research work.
- 3) That the applicant and candidate have established contact in advance and created a concrete research plan.
- 4) That the applicant's institution has establish a suitable place for the candidate to work and stay.
- 5) That, as much as possible, unbalance is avoided in the selectees' nationalities, host institutions, and areas of specialization. Care should be taken to allow people from a wide diversity of countries to come to Japan.
- 6) That not only the score of the document review but also the examiners' reasons and comments are given adequate consideration.
- 7) That two selection judgements are made: (1) Selected and (2) Not-selected.

9. NOTICE

As the allowances that JSPS pays fellows are to cover their living costs as needed to support their research activities in Japan during their tenures, fellows are, in principle, obligated to reside in Japan continuously during the period of their fellowships. With regard to temporary absences from Japan, including how to calculate the aggregate number of days away from Japan, please refer to the Program Guidelines. If it is judged that a temporary absence is taken without JSPS's permission, the fellow's allowances may be terminated.

Postdoctoral Fellowship (Short-term) [PE]

1. PURPOSE

To provide opportunities for pre-/post-doctoral researchers from the US, Canada and Europe (*) to conduct under the guidance of their hosts cooperative research with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions.

(*) Eligible countries are the US, Canada, European Union countries (as of 1 April 2025), the UK, Switzerland, Norway and Russia.

2. DURATION OF FELLOWSHIPS

1 to 12 months

This fellowship is provided in full month units.

Note 1: The fellowship period covers the period from the day a candidate (invited overseas researcher) coming from abroad arrives at an airport in Japan, which is the day that the fellowship starts, to the day that the fellow departs from an airport in Japan, which is the day that the fellowship ends. (This does not apply to fellows who reside in Japan before or after the fellowship period.)

Note 2: As a fellow's tenure may start anytime during the period stated in the Application Guidelines, there are cases when it will end in the following fiscal year.

Note 3: The fellow must reside in Japan continuously over the duration of the fellowship. The duration of the fellowship may not be divided into multiple stays.

3. APPLICATION DEADLINES and APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

Deadlines for host institutions to submit applications to JSPS are as follows. Each host institution may have its own application deadlines, which may be more than one month before those set by JSPS. Applicants (host researchers) should check the deadlines with the staff of the host institution in advance.

Recruitment	Application deadline (<u>from host institution to JSPS</u>)	Period for publishing selection results	Periods for arrival in Japan	Approximate number of fellowships awarded
1st	September 26, 2025 (by 5 p.m. (JST))	Early January 2026	April 1, 2026- March 31, 2027	20
2nd	January 9, 2026 (by 5 p.m. (JST))	Middle of May 2026	August 1, 2026- March 31, 2027	20
3rd	June 5, 2026 (by 5 p.m. (JST))	Late September 2026	December 1, 2026- March 31, 2027	20

*JSPS Electronic Application System will be available for use approximately two months before the application deadlines set by JSPS.

*The approximate number of fellowships to be awarded are subject to change for budgetary reasons.

4. APPLICANT (Host Researcher) ELIGIBILITY

Persons are eligible to apply who satisfy the following two conditions at the time of application, selection, and during the fellowship period.

- (1) Be affiliated with a research institution specified in Article 2(*) of the Procedure for the Handling of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI), issued by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) (*), be eligible to apply for a KAKENHI grant, and wish to host an overseas researcher.
- (2) Be a full-time researcher. However, researchers who are not employed full time may be eligible if the host institution judges them able to execute their responsibility to carrying out the program uninterruptedly throughout the fellow's tenure including providing them a suitable research environment (e.g. laboratory, facilities and personnel) in the same way that a full-time researcher would be able to do.

*Eligible host institutions specified under the above MEXT Procedure are as follows:

- 1) Universities and inter-university research institutes
- 2) MEXT-affiliated institutions engaged in research
- 3) Colleges of technology

4) Institutions designated by the Minister of MEXT

Each applicant (host researcher) may submit up to three applications.

5. CANDIDATE (Invited Overseas Researcher) ELIGIBILITY

Persons are eligible to apply who satisfy the following two conditions as of 1 April 2026 and during the fellowship period.

- (1) Be a citizen or permanent resident of an eligible country stipulated in the note under “1. PURPOSE (*)” above. Also eligible are persons who have been engaged in research continuously over a period of at least three years at a university or research institution in one of the eligible countries. They must be from a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan or be from Taiwan or Palestine and have conducted research continuously for three or more years before JSPS’s application submission deadline and must possess an excellent research record.
- (2) Have obtained their doctoral degree at a university outside Japan within six years of the date that the fellowship goes into effect (on or after 2 April 2020), or currently be enrolled in a doctoral course at a university outside Japan and scheduled to receive a Ph.D. within two years from the time that their research starts in Japan. Whether or not the candidate is employed in a full-time position is not considered.

Note 1: For open calls whose application deadlines of JSPS fall on the same date, if a candidate (invited overseas researcher) has submitted applications through different applicants (host researchers), JSPS can accept only one application.

Note 2: Persons who have previously been awarded and started a fellowship under the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Japan ([P], [PE], [Short-term (PA)] or [Pathway to University positions in Japan]) are not eligible.

Note 3: Persons who possess resident card with mailing addresses in Japan at the time of the application deadline set by JSPS are not eligible.

Note 4: A Japanese citizen who is also a permanent resident of an above-stipulated eligible country is not eligible.

Note 5: Researchers who have continuously carried out their research for three or more years minus time taken for maternity and/or parental leave. (Every four weeks of leave is counted as one month, with any remaining weeks also counted as one month. These months are subtracted from number of years that the researcher has continuously carried out their research.) In this case, separate submission documents are required. Please consult with JSPS in advance via the host institution.

Note 6: Researchers who obtained their Ph.D. within six years minus time taken for maternity and/or parental leave. (Every four weeks of leave is counted as one month, with any remaining weeks also counted as one month. These months are subtracted from the number of years elapsed since the researcher’s Ph.D. was received.) In this case, separate submission documents are required. Please consult with JSPS in advance via the host institution.

Note 7: If a candidate applies for the program in duplicate, through a recommendation from an Overseas Nominating Authority, and through the open call, once the candidate receives notification of acceptance for the program from one of the application channels, the other application must be withdrawn immediately.

Note 8: A person selected as a fellow needs to submit a diploma or doctoral degree certificate (if they have not yet obtained the degree, a prospect certificate must be submitted) before the start of their fellowship. (Not required when submitting the application).

Note 9: If a document certifying the Ph.D. acquisition status is not submitted by the deadline, the fellowship will be cancelled or withdrawn. Details are set out in the Program Guidelines.

Note 10: If it becomes known after being selected that a candidate (invited overseas researcher) does not possess application eligibility, their selection may be cancelled or eligibility terminated during the fellowship period. In such cases, the candidates (invited overseas researcher) may be required to reimburse JSPS their already-paid allowances.

6. TERMS OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The amounts of financial support are scheduled to be as follows. They are subject to change for budgetary reasons.

- (1) Airfare: A roundtrip air ticket (economy-class) (based on JSPS’s regulations)
- (2) Maintenance Allowance:
 - (a) For Ph.D. holders by the time the fellowship starts in Japan: JPY 362,000 per month
 - (b) For non-Ph.D. holders by the time the fellowship starts: JPY 200,000 per month
- (3) Miscellaneous: A settling-in allowance of JPY 200,000 (only applicable for Fellows with 3 or more months of tenure), overseas travel insurance

Note 1. The monthly allowance of JPY 362,000 is paid to the fellows who submitted their Ph.D. diploma or doctoral

degree certificate before the starting date of their fellowship. If none of the aforementioned documents are submitted, the monthly allowance is JPY 200,000.

In the event that a Ph.D. diploma or doctoral degree certificate is submitted after the starting date of the fellowship, the amount of the monthly allowance will be increased for the first payment from the following month after the date of submission of the documents to JSPS. However, the amount already paid will not be increased retroactively.

Note 2. For candidates (invited overseas researcher) who has been staying in Japan (and have a mailing address) before the fellowship starting date, the “airfare” for the flight to Japan and the “settling-in allowance” will not be paid.

A “research support allowance” is available to cover cooperative research-related expenses (in an amount of up to JPY 70,000 × number of months of tenure.) Application is made by the applicant (host researcher) through their institution.

7. APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR PROGRAM

Applications must be submitted via JSPS Electronic Application System

The following procedure is to be carried out when applying for a fellowship. The application forms have the below-described characteristics.

Name of form	Person who prepares the form	Number of sheets	Contents	Preparation method
Form1	Applicant (Host Researcher)	4	Name, Affiliated organization, Research theme, Fellowship tenure, Purpose and significance of collaboration, Framework for hosting the invitee	Entered in electronic application system
Form 2	Candidate (Invited Overseas Researcher)	7	Curriculum vitae, Research achievements and results, Research plan, Academic goals after the fellowship ends, Career plans	Form (Word format) downloaded, and uploaded to electronic application system
Letter of Recommendation	Recommender of the candidate	1	Recommendation	Uploaded to electronic application system

JSPS Electronic Application System: https://www.shinsei.jsps.go.jp/topkokusai/top_kokusai.html

Form download: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/application.html>

Please prepare your applications using as reference the application form instructions and FAQ.

Instructions for the application forms: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/application.html>

FAQ: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/faq.html>

Note 1: Except for places indicated otherwise, the forms may be filled out in either English or Japanese.

Note 2: Form 2 and the Letter of Recommendation should be uploaded in either PDF or Word format.

(1) Procedure for the applicant (host researcher)

1) Obtain the following form and letter from the candidate (invited overseas researcher).

- a JSPS International Fellowships for Research in Japan: APPLICATION FORM FOR JSPS POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR RESEARCH IN JAPAN (SHORT-TERM) (Form 2)
- b Letter of Recommendation signed by the candidate's doctoral supervisor or other such person. (One-page letter. The writer of the letter must be a person other than the applicant (host researcher). Either sign the application or use a self-signed electronic image. A signature typed in a handwriting style font will not be accepted.)

2) Log in to the JSPS Electronic Application System and complete the application procedure on the system (enter Form 1 on the electronic application screen and upload the above **a** and **b** documents. Send (submit) them to the host institution to arrive by the application deadline it specifies.

(2) Procedure for the host institution

- 1) On the electronic application system, verify the contents of the applications sent (submitted) by the applicants (host researchers).
- 2) The applications must be approved by the head of the host institution along with the requirements with which the host institution is to comply (as stated at “Procedure” 5(3)). Additionally, the “List of Candidates” must be verified. Then, please submit (send) the applications to JSPS by its application deadline.

8. SELECTION PROCESS

Selection is carried out through a document review in the first stage and a panel review in the second by the JSPS International Program Committee. Document reviews are conducted by three examiners for each application. Based on contents of the applications, experts in the subject field are assigned to conduct the review. For more details, please see the following website.

Selection Process: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-oubei-s/selectionprocess.html>

SCREENING CRITERIA

- 1) That the implementation of the fellowship contributes to promoting exchange between Japan and countries of North America and Europe.
- 2) That the collaboration can be expected to advance both the candidate's and the applicant's research work.
- 3) That the applicant (host researcher) and candidate (invited overseas researcher) have established contact in advance and created a concrete research plan.
- 4) That the host institution has adequately prepared a framework for receiving the candidate.
- 5) That in the research plan, consideration is given to honing the research skills of pre-doctoral candidates.
- 6) That, as much as possible, unbalance is avoided in the selectees' nationalities, host institutions and areas of specialization.
- 7) That not only the score of the document review but also the examiners' reasons and comments are given adequate consideration.
- 8) That two selection judgements are made: (1) Selected and (2) Not-selected.

9. NOTICE

As the allowances that JSPS pays fellows are to cover their living costs as needed to support their research activities in Japan during their tenures, Fellows are, in principle, obligated to reside in Japan continuously during the period of their fellowships. With regard to temporary absences from Japan, including how to calculate the aggregate number of days away from Japan, please refer to the Program Guidelines. If it is judged that a temporary absence is taken without JSPS's permission, the fellow's allowances may be terminated.

Invitational Fellowship (Long-term) [L]

1. PURPOSE

To provide opportunities for overseas researchers with excellent records of research achievements to conduct collaborative research with Japanese colleagues through long-term visits.

2. DURATION OF FELLOWSHIPS

2 to 10 months

This fellowship is provided in full month units. An extension of the fellowship tenure will not be authorized under any circumstances.

Note 1: The fellowship period covers the period from the day a candidate (invited overseas researcher) coming from abroad arrives at an airport in Japan, which is the day that the fellowship starts, to the day that the fellow departs from an airport in Japan, which is the day that the fellowship ends. (This does not apply to fellows who reside in Japan before or after the fellowship period.)

Note 2: As a fellow's tenure may start anytime during the period stated in the Application Guidelines, there are cases when it will end in the following fiscal year.

3. APPLICATION DEADLINE and APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

The deadline for host institutions to send applications to JSPS are as follows. Each host institution may have its own application deadline, which can be more than one month before the deadline set by JSPS. Applicants (host researchers) should check the deadline with the staff of the host institution in advance.

Application deadline (<u>from host institution to JSPS</u>)	Period for publishing selection results	Periods for arrival in Japan	Approximate number of fellowships awarded
August 29, 2025 (by 5 p.m. (JST))	Late December 2025	April 1, 2026- March 31, 2027	60

*JSPS Electronic Application System will be available approximately two months before the application deadlines set by JSPS.

*The approximate number of fellowships to be awarded are subject to change for budgetary reasons.

4. APPLICANT (Host Researcher) ELIGIBILITY

Persons are eligible to apply who satisfy the following two conditions at the time of application, selection, and during the fellowship period.

- (1) Be affiliated with a research institution specified in Article 2* of the Procedure for the Handling of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI), issued by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), be eligible to apply for a KAKENHI grant, and wish to host an overseas researcher.
- (2) Be a full-time researcher. However, researchers who are not employed full time may be eligible if the host institution judges them able to execute their responsibility to carrying out the program uninterruptedly throughout the Fellow's tenure including providing them a suitable research environment (e.g. laboratory, facilities and personnel) in the same way that a full-time researcher would be able to do.

(*) Eligible host institutions specified under the above MEXT Procedure are as follows:

- 1) Universities and inter-university research institutes
- 2) MEXT-affiliated institutions engaged in research
- 3) Colleges of technology
- 4) Institutions designated by the Minister of MEXT

5. CANDIDATE (Invited Overseas Researcher) ELIGIBILITY

Persons are eligible to apply who satisfy the following two conditions as of 1 April 2026 and during the fellowship period.

- (1) Be a citizen or permanent resident of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. (Taiwan and Palestine are treated in this manner.) Persons of Japanese nationality are eligible to apply if they have resided at the time of application in a foreign country for 10 years or longer and are judged at a host research institution to have played an active role in that country's scientific community.

- (2) Be a full-time researchers or person with full-time researcher status at a university or research institution in a foreign country and have a position equivalent to a professor, associate professor or assistant professor in Japan (including positions such as professor emeritus). Researchers of other status may apply if it has been six years or longer since they obtained their doctoral degree and the host research institution judges them to have continuously conducted research at a foreign university or research institution.

Note: For open calls whose application deadlines of JSPS fall on the same date, if a candidate (invited overseas researcher) has submitted applications through different applicants (host researchers), JSPS can accept only one application.

6. TERMS OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The amounts of financial support are as follows. They are subject to change for budgetary reasons.

- (1) Airfare: A roundtrip air ticket (economy-class) (based on JSPS's regulations)
- (2) Maintenance Allowance: JPY 387,600 per month
- (3) Overseas travel insurance
- (4) Research support allowance: Up to JPY 150,000 (Application is made by the applicant (host researcher) through their institution.)

Note: For candidates (invited overseas researchers) who were staying in Japan before the fellowship starting date, "airfare" for the flight to Japan will not be paid.

7. PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted via JSPS Electronic Application System

The following procedure is carried out when applying for a fellowship. The application forms have the below-described characteristics.

Form number	Name of form	Person who prepares the form	Number of sheets	Contents	Preparation method
L-1	Entered on the website	Applicant (Host Researcher)	1	Name, Affiliated organization, Research theme, Fellowship tenure	Entered in electronic application system
L-2	Research Proposal Document	Applicant (Host Researcher) and Candidate (Invited Overseas Researcher)	7	Purpose and significance, Invitation plan, Capacity to conduct the research, Contribution to advancing science	Form (Word format) downloaded, and uploaded to electronic application system
L-3	Fellow's curriculum vitae	Candidate (Invited Overseas Researcher)	2	Curriculum vitae, Research achievements and results	Form (Word format) downloaded, and uploaded to electronic application system

JSPS Electronic Application System: https://www.shinsei.jsps.go.jp/topkokusai/top_kokusai.html

Form download: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/application/guideline.html>

Please prepare your application using as reference the application form instructions and FAQ.

Instructions for the application forms: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/application/guideline.html>

FAQ: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/faq.html>

Note 1: Except for places indicated otherwise, these forms may be filled out in either English or Japanese.

Note 2: Form L-2 and Form L-3 should be uploaded in either PDF or Word format.

(1) Procedure of the candidate (invited overseas researcher)

- 1) Form L-2 should be prepared together with the applicant (host researcher).
- 2) Form L-3 should be prepared in cooperation with the applicant (host researcher).

(2) Procedure of the applicant (host researcher)

- 1) Form L-2 should be prepared together with the candidate (invited overseas researcher).

- 2) Form L-3 should be prepared in cooperation with the candidate (invited overseas researcher).
- 3) To complete the application, enter Form L-1 in the JSPS Electronic Application System and upload Forms L-2 and L-3 to the system.
- 4) By the deadline set by the host institution, send (submit) the application to the host institution via the electronic application system.

(3) Procedure of the host institution

- 1) On the electronic application system, verify the contents of the applications sent (submitted) by the applicants (host researchers).
- 2) The applications must be approved by the head of the host institution along with the requirements with which the host institution is to comply (as stated at “Procedure” 5(3)). Additionally, the “List of Candidates” must be verified. Then, please submit (send) the applications to JSPS by its application deadline.

8. SELECTION PROCESS

Selection is carried out through a document review in the first stage and a panel review in the second by the JSPS International Program Committee. Document reviews are conducted by three examiners for each application. Based on contents of the applications, experts in the subject field are assigned to conduct the review. For more details, please see the following website.

Selection Process: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/selectionprocess.html>

SCREENING CRITERIA

- 1) That the collaboration will contribute to advancing science in Japan and other countries.
- 2) That the collaboration can be expected to advance research in the subject field. Evaluation should place emphasis on researchers invited from other countries.
- 3) That the applicant (host researcher) and candidate (invited overseas researcher) have established contact in advance and created a concrete research plan.
- 4) That the host institution has adequately prepared a system for receiving the candidate.
- 5) That the plan can be carried out within the period of the candidate’s fellowship tenure.
- 6) That the plan has as its objective joint research or other collaborative activities between researcher(s) in Japan and the candidate.
- 7) That, as much as possible, unbalance is avoided in the selectees' nationalities, host institutions, and areas of specialization.
- 8) That not only the score of the document review but also the examiners’ reasons and comments are given adequate consideration.
- 9) That the number of selectees with Japanese nationality be no more than about 3% of all the selectees under one application recruitment.
- 10) That two selection judgements are made: (1) Selected and (2) Not-selected.

Invitational Fellowship (Short-term) [S]

1. PURPOSE

To provide opportunities for overseas researchers with excellent records of research achievements to visit Japan short-term for discussions, opinion exchanges, lectures, and other activities.

2. DURATION OF FELLOWSHIPS

14 to 60 days

An extension of the fellowship tenure will not be authorized under any circumstances.

Note 1: The fellowship period covers the period from the day a fellow coming from abroad arrives at an airport in Japan, which is the day that the fellowship starts, to the day that the fellow departs from an airport in Japan, which is the day that the fellowship ends. (This does not apply to fellows who reside in Japan before or after the fellowship period.)

Note 2: As a fellow's tenure may start anytime during the period stated in the application guidelines, there are cases when it will end in the following fiscal year.

3. APPLICATION DEADLINES and APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

The deadlines for host institutions to apply to JSPS are as follows. Each host institution may have its own application deadline, which can be more than one month before the deadline set by JSPS. Applicants (host researcher) should check the deadlines with the staff of the host institution in advance.

Recruitment	Application deadline (from host institution to JSPS)	Period for publishing the selection results	Periods for arrival in Japan	Approximate number of fellowships awarded
1st	August 29 2025 (by 5 p.m. (JST))	Late December 2025	April 1, 2026- March 31, 2027	85
2nd	April 28, 2026 (by 5 p.m. (JST))	Early August 2026	October 1, 2026- March 31, 2027	75

*JSPS Electronic Application System will be available for use approximately two months before the application deadlines set by JSPS.

*The approximate number of fellowships to be awarded are subject to change for budgetary reasons.

4. APPLICANT (Host Researcher) ELIGIBILITY

Persons are eligible to apply who satisfy the following two conditions at the time of application, selection, and during the fellowship period.

- (1) Be affiliated with a research institution specified in Article 2* of the Procedure for the Handling of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI), issued by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), and be eligible to apply for a KAKENHI grant, and wish to host an overseas researcher.
- (2) Be a full-time researcher. However, researchers who are not employed full time may be eligible if the host institution judges them able to execute their responsibility to carrying out the program uninterruptedly throughout the fellow's tenure including providing them a suitable research environment (e.g. laboratory, facilities and personnel) in the same way that a full-time researcher would be able to do.

(*) Eligible host institutions specified under the above MEXT Procedure are as follows:

- 1) Universities and inter-university research institutes
- 2) MEXT-affiliated institutions engaged in research
- 3) Colleges of technology
- 4) Institutions designated by the Minister of MEXT

5. CANDIDATE (Invited Overseas Researcher) ELIGIBILITY

Persons are eligible to apply who satisfy the following two conditions from 1 April 2026 and during the fellowship period.

- (1) Be a citizen or permanent resident of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan. (Taiwan and Palestine are treated in this manner.) Persons of Japanese nationality are eligible to apply if they have resided at the time of application in a foreign country for 10 years or longer and are judged at a host research institution to have

played an active role in that country's scientific community.

- (2) Be a full-time researchers or person with full-time researcher status at a university or research institution in a foreign country and have a position equivalent to a professor, associate professor or assistant professor in Japan (including positions such as professor emeritus). Researchers of other status may apply if it has been six years or longer since they obtained their doctoral degree and the host research institution judges them to have continuously conduct research at a foreign university or research institution.

Note1: For open calls whose application deadlines of JSPS fall on the same date, if a candidate (invited overseas researcher) has submitted applications through different applicants (host researchers), JSPS can accept only one application.

Note2: Candidates (invited overseas researchers) selected under the first recruitment for either [L] or [S] fellowships may not apply for an [S] fellowship under the second recruitment of the same fiscal year.

6. TERMS OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

The amounts of financial support are as follows. They are subject to change for budgetary reasons.

(1) Airfare: A roundtrip air ticket (economy-class) (based on JSPS's regulations)

(2) Maintenance Allowance: JPY 18,000 per day

(3) Overseas travel insurance

(4) Research support allowance: Up to JPY 150,000

(Application is made by the applicant (host researcher) through their institution.)

Note: For candidates (invited overseas researcher) who are in Japan before the fellowship starting date, "airfare" for the flight to Japan will not be paid.

7. PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted via JSPS Electronic Application System

The following procedure is to be carried out when applying for a fellowship. The application forms have the below-described characteristics.

Form number	Name of form	Person who prepares the form	Number of sheets	Contents	Preparation method
S-1	Entered on the website	Applicant (Host Researcher)	1	Name, Affiliated organization, Research theme, Fellowship tenure	Entered in electronic application system
S-2	Research Proposal Document	Applicant (Host Researcher) and Candidate (Invited Overseas Researcher)	5	Purpose and significance, Invitation plan, Capacity to conduct the research, Contribution to advancing science	Form (Word format) downloaded, and uploaded to electronic application system
S-3	Fellow's curriculum vitae	Candidate (Invited Overseas Researcher)	2	Curriculum vitae, Research achievements and results	Form (Word format) downloaded, and uploaded to electronic application system

JSPS Electronic Application System: https://www.shinsei.jps.go.jp/topkokusai/top_kokusai.html

Form download: <https://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-inv/application/guideline.html>

Please prepare your applications using as reference the application form instructions and FAQ.

Instructions for the application forms: <https://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-inv/application/guideline.html>

FAQ: <https://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-inv/faq.html>

Note 1: Except for places indicated otherwise, the forms may be filled out in either English or Japanese.

Note 2: Form S-2 and Form S-3 should be uploaded in either PDF or Word format.

(1) Procedure of the candidate (invited overseas researcher)

1) Form S-2 should be prepared together with the applicant (host researcher).

2) Form S-3 should be prepared in cooperation with the applicant (host researcher).

(2) Procedure of the applicant (host researcher)

- 1) Form S-2 should be prepared together with the candidate (invited overseas researcher).
- 2) Form S-3 should be prepared in cooperation with the candidate (invited overseas researcher).
- 3) To complete the application, enter Form S-1 in the JSPS Electronic Application System for International Collaborations and upload Forms S-2 and S-3 to the system.
- 4) By the deadline set by the host research institution, send (submit) the application to the host institution via the electronic application system.

(3) Procedure of the host institution

- 1) On the electronic application system, verify the content of the applications sent (submitted) by the applicants (host researchers).
- 2) The applications must be approved by the head of the host institution along with the requirements with which the host institution is to comply (as stated at “Procedure” 5(3)). Additionally, the “List of Candidates” must be verified. Then, please submit (send) the applications to JSPS by its application deadline.

8. SELECTION PROCESS

The selection is carried out through a document review in the first stage and a panel review in the second by the JSPS International Program Committee. Document reviews are conducted by three examiners for each application. Based on contents of the applications, experts in the subject field are assigned to conduct the review. For more details, please see the following website.

Selection Process: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-inv/selectionprocess.html>

SCREENING CRITERIA

- 1) That the collaboration will contribute to advancing science in Japan and other countries.
- 2) That the collaboration can be expected to advance research in the subject field. Evaluation should place emphasis on researchers invited from other countries.
- 3) That the applicant (host researcher) and candidate (invited overseas researcher) have established contact in advance and created a concrete activity plan.
- 4) That the host institution has adequately prepared a system for receiving the candidate.
- 5) That the plan can be carried out within the period of the candidate’s fellowship tenure.
- 6) That the plan has as its objective lectures, discussions or other exchange activities held not only in the host institution but also in some other institutions. That the plan also includes instructive opportunities to foster young researchers.
- 7) That, as much as possible, unbalance is avoided in the selectees’ nationalities, host institutions, and areas of specialization.
- 8) That not only the score of the document review but also the examiners’ reasons and comments are given adequate consideration.
- 9) That the number of selectees with Japanese nationality be no more than about 3% of all the selectees under one application.
- 10) That two selection judgements are made: (1) Selected and (2) Not-selected.

Other Relevant Issues

1. Inquiries

Overseas Fellowship Division, International Program Department, JSPS

Postdoctoral Fellowship (Standard)	TEL: 03-3263-3444 Mail: postdoc-standard *jspm.go.jp https://www.jspm.go.jp/english/e-fellow/e-ippan/index.html
Postdoctoral Fellowship (Short-term)	TEL: 03-3263-3444 Mail: postdoc-short *jspm.go.jp https://www.jspm.go.jp/english/e-fellow/e-oubei-s/index.html
Invitational Fellowship (Long-term and Short-term)	TEL: 03-3263-2480 Mail: invitation *jspm.go.jp https://www.jspm.go.jp/english/e-inv/index.html

Opening hour: Monday to Friday (excluding holidays) 9:30-12:00, 13:00-17:00 (Japan time)

Note: Please replace * with @.

FAQ

Postdoctoral Fellowship: <https://www.jspm.go.jp/english/e-fellow/faq.html>

Invitational Fellowship: <https://www.jspm.go.jp/english/e-inv/faq.html>

Instructions on application forms

Postdoctoral Fellowship: <https://www.jspm.go.jp/english/e-fellow/application.html>

Invitational Fellowship: <https://www.jspm.go.jp/english/e-inv/application/guideline.html>

2. Cooperation in carrying out site surveys and questionnaires

Site surveys are carried out on host institutions for the purpose of verifying the program's implementation system and the management, execution and auditing of program funding. Applicants (host researchers) and candidates (invited overseas researchers) are asked to cooperate in these surveys. Also, questionnaires are carried out for the purpose of improving JSPS programs. Applicants (host researchers), candidates (invited overseas researchers) and host institutions are asked to fill out these questionnaires.

3. Promotion of "Open Access" to the research papers supported by JSPS International Fellowships for Research in Japan

It is JSPS's policy to provide open access to research papers. Beginning with research supported by Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI) and other JSPS funding, research papers should, as a rule, be given open access. Note that open access is not mandatory if there are justifiable reasons for deferral such as copyright-related issues or insufficient repository infrastructure at the research institution.

The open-access implementation policy of JSPS is described on the following webpage.

URL: https://www.jspm.go.jp/data/Open_access.pdf

(1) Reference 1: What is "Open Access"

Open access refers to the basic idea that research papers published in peer-reviewed journals should be made freely accessible to anyone.

(2) Reference 2: Different Routes to Open Access

There are three main ways of open access implementation:

- 1) Opening access to articles published in conventional subscription fee type academic journals after a certain period of time (Embargo) (*1) (for example 6 months later) by opening the final manuscript to an Institutional Repository (*2) established by the research institution to which the author belongs, or by opening the final manuscript to the website, etc. established by the researchers (self-archiving) (*3).
- 2) Opening access to articles by posting them on a Web established by the research community or public institution.
- 3) Opening access to articles immediately by paying the publication fee (APC: Article Processing Charge) by the author of the article.

*1: "Embargo"

The predetermined period from the time an article is published in an academic journal to the time it is released so that it can be posted on an online open-access archiving system (repository).

*2: "Institutional Repository"

An online archiving system created by a university or research institution for storage and dissemination of intellectual products. Institutional repositories play important roles in the reform of academic information distribution by enabling researchers to register their own articles. They also allow the transmission of research and education achievements of research institutions, PR for both the research institution and the researcher, guaranteeing the accountability of research and education activities toward society, and long-term conservation of intellectual products.

*3: “Self-archiving”

Self-archiving refers to online posting of articles published in academic journals, dissertations, or data by those other than the publisher (the researcher or research institution) generally on their institutional repositories.

4. Management of Research Data

JSPS has established a policy that stipulates JSPS’ basic principles regarding the storage, management, and publication of research data generated during research activities funded by research grants provided by JSPS.

Researchers selected for JSPS projects are required to comply with the data policies and other regulations of the research institutions with which they are affiliated. They must also prepare a Data Management Plan (DMP) that describes the policies and plans for the storage, management, disclosure, and non-disclosure of research data generated as a result of their research activities. Researchers must conduct their research activities in accordance with the DMP for the storage, management, and disclosure of their research data.

Please refer to the following website for JSPS’s basic policy on the handling of research data.

https://www.jsps.go.jp/file/storage/open_science/basic_policy.pdf

International Fellowships for Research in Japan DMP Sample Form (except for [P])

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/file/storage/j-inv/yoshiki/data/e-dmp.docx>

5. Acknowledging research results

When announcing research results obtained under this fellowship, please indicate the support you’ve received through the program.

Please provide an acknowledgment in research papers. Below is an example of how to write one.

Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan

This work was supported by JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan.

Invitational Fellowships for Research in Japan

This work was supported by JSPS Invitational Fellowship for Researcher in Japan.

6. Registration of the Researcher Information in researchmap

“researchmap” is, as a general guide to Japanese researchers, Japan’s largest researcher information database. Registered information on research results can be openly disseminated over the Internet using researchmap. As researchmap is linked to e-Rad and many university faculty databases, it allows registered information to be accessed by other systems. Furthermore, the Japanese Government plans to further utilize researchmap, so please register your researcher information on the researchmap site.

<https://researchmap.jp/>

7. Registration on JSPS-Net

JSPS Research Network (JSPS-Net) is a social networking service oriented to researchers who have experienced participating in JSPS programs. It supports the networking of researchers who carry out activities across national borders and the creation of researcher communities.

In addition to supporting researchers in the similar fields, JSPS-Net provides a platform for establishing communities and networks among researchers carrying out activities in different fields and among researchers conducting activities in the same region—communities and networks that can also include other researchers and research-support people who are interested in those activities. In such ways, JSPS-Net works to promote future international collaborations and to advance international joint research while assisting each registered researcher in carrying out their activities on the world stage.

JSPS-Net also assists young and overseas researchers in finding host researchers and institutions in Japan. The service it provides matches young researchers with prospective hosts.

We look forward to the participants in this fellowship program registering on JSPS-Net. We’re pretty sure you’ll

find it both interesting and useful.
<https://www.jsps-net.jsps.go.jp/>

8. Registration on LinkedIn

LinkedIn is the world's largest professional networking platform with more than one billion registered users in over 200 countries and regions. It serves as a hub for professionals around the world to share and exchange job and career information and generate financial opportunities.

Information about JSPS is also available on LinkedIn. We hope you will follow the JSPS International Academic Collaborations if you have experience with any of the JSPS projects.
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/jsps-international-academic-collaborations>

9. Data Disclosure from NBDC

The Life Science Database Integration Project (<https://biosciencedbc.jp/>), implemented by the Bioscience Database Center (NBDC) of the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), is promoting the integrated use of life science databases created by various research and other institutions. Additionally, in the report "Progress and Future Directions of the Life Science Database Integration Project" (dated January 17, 2013), it was stated that NBDC (now the NBDC Project Promotion Office, Information Infrastructure Division) would take the lead in expanding the range of projects eligible for data and database provision.

Based on these considerations, we ask for your cooperation in the publication of the following types of data and databases related to the life sciences obtained through this program.

No.	Data type	Releaser	Releaser's URL
1	Summary of constructed, publicly open databases	Integbio Database Catalog	https://catalog.integbio.jp/dbcatalog/en/
2	Data contained in constructed, publicly open databases	Life Science Database Archives	https://dbarchive.biosciencedbc.jp/index-e.html
3	data/databases related to humans among the No. 2 above.	NBDC Human Database	https://humandbs.dbcls.jp/en/

10. National BioResource Project (NBRP)

The National BioResource Project (NBRP) has contributed to the advancement of life science research in Japan by strategically collecting and preserving important bioresources that serve as the foundation for basic and fundamental life science studies. These resources are stored at NBRP's core facilities and provided to universities and research institutions. To continue contributing to the advancement of life science research in Japan, it will be necessary to continuously collect valuable bioresources. Therefore, we ask for your cooperation in contributing to NBRP's collection efforts by depositing* any bioresources developed through this program that can be made available (limited to those targeted by NBRP) For bioresources already maintained by NBRP (including animals, plants, microorganisms, cells, genetic materials, and information), it is encouraged that they be used from a perspective of conducting research efficiently.

*Depositing: This is a procedure that allows the use (storage and provision) of relevant resources within this program without transferring any associated rights. By specifying detailed provision conditions in a deposit agreement, restrictions on usage, citation requirements in publications, and other usage conditions can be imposed on users.

NBRP Core Facility Upgrading Program – List of Targeted Bioresources and Representative Institutions
<https://nbrp.jp/resource/>