

# FAQs on Procedures for Preparing the Application Documents for JSPS Postdoctoral (PD) & Doctoral (DC) Research Fellowships

## 1. Logging into the JSPS Electronic Application System

Q1-1. How can I issue an ID & password for the JSPS Electronic Application System? How can I have my password reissued?

A1-1. All IDs and passwords are issued and managed by the Applying Organizations. Please contact your Applying Organization. To find out which institution is the Applying Organization for your fellowship category, check the Application Guidelines for the applicable fellowship category.

## 2. Entering your Application Information

Q2-1. Which research area should I apply for?

A2-1. The selection of JSPS Fellows will be conducted based on review sections. Click the List All 一覧 button to display the Review Section Table 審査区分表, and choose the review section you wish to be screened. Details of the review sections can be found on the JSPS website ([https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-pd/pd\\_sinsa-set.html](https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-pd/pd_sinsa-set.html)).

Q2-2. **PDs only**: Where can I enter my middle name in alphabet?

A2-2. The application screen for PD applicants in the JSPS Electronic Application System does not have a field to enter your middle name. Please use the Given Name field to provide your middle name and your first name in that order. Due to system restrictions, only the first letter in the Given Name field can be capitalized. (Example: If your name is 山田 Jones 太郎, enter “YAMADA Jones taro”)

Q2-3. **PDs only**: I am planning to acquire a permanent resident permit of Japan in the future. Can I enter “Yes” in the Permanent Residency Status field?

A2-3. PD Fellows must be a Japan national or have a permanent residence permit of Japan **at the time of application**. Those who are expecting to acquire permission for permanent residence are not eligible to apply for PD Fellowships.

\* “At the time of application” shall mean the date on which the Applying Organization submits your application documents to JSPS.

Q2-4. I do not have enough space for **(viii) Academic degrees, (ix) Status of doctoral course studies (DCs)/Information on institution granting your PhD (for PDs), and (x) Research, job experience, etc.**, and wish to submit an additional page. Should I just provide the information that is in addition to what I have already entered?

A2-4. No, you must provide full information on the additional page, including the information you have already entered in the System. All information should be listed in chronological order. For example, if you didn't have enough space for **(viii) Academic degrees**, you must complete all items on this form, not only for the **(viii) Academic degrees** field, but for all fields including **(ix) Status of doctoral course studies (DCs)/Information on institution granting your PhD (for PDs)** and other information required in the form.

Q2-5. Can I enter the name of a foreign university in alphabet?

A2-5. If the name of a university, when written in Japanese, may be confusingly similar to other universities, you may enter the name in alphabet.

Q2-6. **PDs only**: How can I change the name of affiliated research institution of the **Host Researcher after Awarded Fellowship** that appears on the Application Form screen in the JSPS Electronic Application System?

A2-6. Because your application for PD Fellowship will be submitted by your host research institution (the organization at which your host researcher to-be holds his/her main duty), the affiliated research institution of your host researcher is your Applying Organization. That is why the name of the institution that issued the applicant's ID for you appears automatically in this field, and cannot be changed from the application screen. If the affiliated institution of your host researcher to-be on screen is incorrect, you should contact the actual affiliated institution of your host research to-be and ask them to issue an applicant's ID for you. Then, create your application documents using the new ID issued from the correct host research institution.

Q2-7. **PDs only**: Information as of when should I provide for the Department, Job Title, etc. of my academic supervisor at the graduate school I enrolled in?

A2-7. You are to provide the Department and Job Title of your academic supervisor at the time you completed the doctoral course.

Q2-8. How can I prevent JSPS from contacting my current affiliated institution?

A2-8. As a general rule, JSPS will contact you based on the information you provided in the Preferred Contact field as Application Information in the JSPS Electronic Application System. If you do not wish to have JSPS contact your current affiliated institution, you do not need to provide the contact information of your affiliated institution.

### **3. Requesting the Preparation of the Evaluation Report**

Q3-1. How should I determine the Requested Deadline?

A3-1. The Requested Deadline field is to notify the evaluator of the deadline for the preparation of the evaluation report that you request the evaluator to meet. The evaluation report can be submitted after this requested deadline so long as it is before the deadline for submission established by the Applying Organization.

Q3-2. Will the documents prepared by the applicant and the report prepared by the evaluator be submitted separately?

A3-2. After the evaluator completes preparing the evaluation report, the applicant will submit the other application documents and the evaluation report together using the JSPS Electronic Application System. Once the evaluator completes preparing the evaluation report, the Process Status field in the JSPS Electronic Application System will be displayed as “Submitted.” Check the Process Status field, then click on the “Check completed. Submit” button to submit your documents to the Applying Organization.

Q3-3. DC1s only: Who should I ask to write the evaluation report?

A3-3. The evaluator for a DC applicant will be your current academic supervisor. The current academic supervisor of a DC1 applicant will be as follows depending on the applicant’s current status:

- If you are enrolled in a Master’s course, your academic supervisor of your Master’s course studies
- If you are currently a researcher, your current host researcher (superior at your workplace)
- If you are currently not engaged in research, the most recent academic supervisor

#### **4. Preparing your Envisaged Budget for Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows**

Q4-1. Will my choice of the funding category (A or B) for Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows affect the results of review?

A4-1. No, your choice of funding category will not affect the review for Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows. Select the funding category that suits your research plan.

Q4-2. The Application Guidelines state that “the amount of grant under Funding Category B will be decided only if you are considered, by reference to the evaluation at the time of the fellowship award, to have specific needs.” If I select Funding Category B for Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows and my needs did not meet the criteria for Funding Category B, will my proposal not be adopted?

A4-2. If you select Funding Category B, but your needs to exceed the maximum total budget for Funding Category A did not meet the criteria for Funding Category B by reference to the evaluation at the time of the fellowship award, you may still be eligible for Funding Category A. Your proposal will not be disqualified even if your needs did not meet the criteria for Funding Category B.

#### **5. Questions regarding the Application**

If you have questions regarding the application, first consult the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), which can be found on the JSPS website ([https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-pd/pd\\_qa.html](https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-pd/pd_qa.html)).