



Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research-KAKENHI-

FY2026

JSPS Research Fellows
【JSPS International Research Fellow】

This English version is provided for convenience of prospective KAKENHI applicants who experience difficulty in reading the Japanese original, which should be referred to, in case of dispute.

January, 2026

Japan Society for the Promotion of Science
(<https://www.jsps.go.jp/>)

Introduction

This document describes the procedures and other matters relevant to the “Call for Proposals for the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research-KAKENHI- for FY2026” including the “JSPS International Research Fellows” [JSPS Research Fellow].

The contents are :

- I Call for Proposals**
- II Instructions for Prospective Applicants**
- III Instructions for Administrative Staff of Research Institution**
- IV Other Relevant Issues**

“[I. Call for Proposals](#)” provides for the Research Category, such basic issues as the subjects in the research category to be called, the range of envisaged total budget, a project period is also described.

The subsequent sections “[II. Instructions for Prospective Applicants](#)”, and “[III. Instructions for Administrative Staff of Research Institution](#)”, describe conditions for application, required procedures, and other matters, to be followed by the respective actors.

This Call for Proposals announced prior to the finalization of the national budget for FY2026 so as to prospective applicants proceed with an early preparation for review and enable to commence their research activities as soon as possible. It is, therefore, to be reminded that depending on the situation of the national budget enactment, details on the grant allocation and other matters may be subject to change at a later stage.

The major changes in the FY2026 call for proposals are listed on the following pages.

Explanation of Important Matters

- Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research is a competitive research funding intended to provide financial support for creative and pioneering research conducted by individual researchers. Therefore, the contents of the Research Proposal Document must be original planned by the applicant. Plagiarism and/or misappropriation of the research contents of others are strictly impermissible. Applicants must comply with research ethics. Please note that the use of generative AI in the preparation of the Research Proposal Document causes the risk of inadvertent infringement of copyright and leakage of personal information and confidential information. It is the responsibility of the individual researcher to make appropriate decisions about the usage of generative AI.
- The research using the KAKENHI fund should be carried out by the researchers’ own initiative and responsibility. Therefore, the implementation of a KAKENHI research project and publication of the research results are solely attributed to the researchers’ responsibility and view, and do not reflect that of the funding sector nor of the government.
- To ensure the quality of scientific knowledge and to gain trust of society on scientists and scientific communities, it is essential to exercise fair and conscientious research activities with the adherence to the code of conduct for scientists. Applicants must understand and practice the contents of both the Statement “Code of Conduct for Scientists -Revised Version-” (section I. “Responsibilities of Scientists”) by the Science Council of Japan and the booklet “For the Sound Development of Science - The Attitude of a Conscientious Scientist -” (especially section I “What Is a Responsible Research Activity?”) issued by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS).
- From the perspective of enhancing the quality of research activities among the international scientific research networks, researchers are urged to disseminate their research results aggressively to the international society by publication of scientific papers in international journals, co-authoring of international papers, presentations in international conferences, etc.

< Major Changes in the Call for Proposals for Fiscal Year 2026 >

(1) Promotion of the Joint Use of Research Facilities

- In order to promote efficient use of research funds and joint use of facilities, starting from fiscal year 2025, JSPS will require joint use with those inside and/or outside the research institution of research facilities and equipment that have been purchased with direct expenses of KAKENHI and that meet conditions stipulated by the spending rules. Please visualize such research facilities and equipment for those inside and/or outside the research institution, by, in particular, registering them on a search system, etc. For details, please refer to the Guidelines toward the Promotion of the Joint Use of Research Facilities and Equipment (March 2022, Study Group on the Formulation of the Guidelines, etc. toward the Joint Use of Research Facilities and Equipment at Universities and Other Institutions) and the KAKENHI spending rules (supplementary conditions, funding conditions, etc.).
- Guidelines toward the Promotion of the Joint Use of Research Facilities and Equipment (March 2022, Study Group on the Formulation of the Guidelines, etc. toward the Joint Use of Research Facilities and Equipment at Universities and Other Institutions)
https://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/shingi/chousa/shotou/163/toushin/mext_00004.html

(2) Research Data Management

- Starting from fiscal year 2024, researchers are asked to prepare research Data Management Plans (DMPs) of their projects under all research categories in principle. Details such as an example of a DMP are given at the time of provisional grant decision or via the URL below. As such, please store, manage, and take other measures for research results and data of your research projects in accordance with your DMPs. In addition, researchers are requested to submit the information on research data that are generated in funded projects and made public (metadata, etc.) as part of the Report on the State of Implementation and the Report on the Results for submission in fiscal year 2025.

○ Management and Utilization of Research Data in KAKENHI (JSPS website)
https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/01_seido/10_datamanagement/index.html

(3) Promotion of Open Access to Research Papers, Etc.

- In order to promote open access to research papers through presentations thereof and other means, starting from new calls for proposals in April 2025 and beyond, it will be required to publish such papers under all research categories in principle on “institutional repositories and other information infrastructure” immediately after they are published in academic journals. It will also be required to report the published information as part of the Report on the State of Implementation and the Report on the Results.

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Major Changes in the Call for Proposals for Fiscal Year 2026	2
I. Call for Proposals	4
1. Purpose	
2. Recipients	
3. Range of total budget (total budget throughout the research period)	
4. Research Period	
5. Application Eligibility (etc.)	
6. Eligible Research Projects	
7. Applying for Multiple Years	
8. Budgets	
9. Research Project and Plan	
10. Submitting “Confirmation on the Application of the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows (JSPS International Research Fellow) FY2026”	
11. Handling of Parallel Grant Application (Restrictions on Parallel Grant Application)	
12. Appropriate use of KAKENHI (etc.)	
13. “Guidelines on the Proper Implementation of Competitive Research Funds” etc.	
14. Dissemination, Etc. of Research Achievements supported by KAKENHI	
15. Code of Conduct for Scientists to Adhere	
16. Review Panels and Other Matters	
II. Instructions for Prospective Applicants	17
1. Preparation of KAKENHI Research Proposal Documents	
2. Points to Keep in Mind When Preparing the Research Proposal Document	
3. Handling of Personal Information	
4. Schedule after Submitting the Research Proposal Documents (plan)	
5. Completion of Research Ethics Education Coursework, etc.	
6. Registration of the Researcher Information in “researchmap”	
III. Instructions for Administrative Staff of Research Institution	20
1. Issues to Be Completed Beforehand by the “Research Institution”	
2. Issues that Need to Be Verified when Compiling the Application Forms (Preparing the Research Proposal Document)	
3. Submission and Other Matters of the Research Proposal Document (Preparing the Research Proposal Document).	
4. Others	
IV. Other Relevant Issues	25
(Reference 1) Procedures on the Handling of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research	omitted
(Reference 2) Procedures on the Handling of JSPS Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI (Multi-year Fund))	omitted
(Reference 3) Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI (Multi-year Fund)) Spending Rules: Funding Conditions	omitted
V. Inquiries	33

References

The application forms (Research Proposal Document) and other application materials are contained in separate files. Please refer to “Supplementary Volume ‘Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research - KAKENHI - for FY2026 “JSPS Research Fellows” [JSPS International Research Fellow] (Forms / Procedures for Preparing and Entering a Research Proposal Document).”

* The application procedures, Research Proposal Document (output image) and other application materials can be downloaded from the JSPS website (cf. URL below).

URL: https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/20_tokushourei/download.html

I. Call for Proposals

1. Purpose

The Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows (JSPS International Research Fellow) comes under the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (hereinafter referred to as “KAKENHI”) Program. The grant supports excellent young researchers from other countries who have been selected for a JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Overseas Researchers. It provides them with an opportunity to conduct joint research under the guidance of a Japanese host researcher at a Japanese university. While assisting the overseas researcher in advancing his/her own research, collaboration under this grant is also meant to contribute to the advancement of research in Japan and the Fellow’s country. The grant is issued to the host researcher.

2. Recipients

A research project that is carried out by host researcher who is eligible to apply for a KAKENHI and who will carry out the project with a JSPS International Research Fellow. The research project is to employ an excellent concept expected to be advanced in the future.

3. Range of total budget (total budget throughout the research period)

There are four funding categories:

Funding Category	Total Amount	
	Fellowship tenure: 24 months	Fellowship tenure: From 12 months to 24 months
Funding Category A	Up to 2.4 million yen	Up to 1.2 million yen
Funding Category B (Applicable if the research plan requires the total budget to exceed the amount under Funding Category A. The allocated amount will be decided as falling under Funding Category B only if the need for the excess is acceptable in light of the evaluation made at the acceptance of the fellowship award.*)	Over 2.4 million yen and up to 3 million yen	Over 1.2 million yen and up to 1.5 million yen

- * If JSPS International Research Fellows with less than a 24-month tenure extend their fellowship to 24 months, their host researcher is to prepare and submit a new research plan that “Funding Category” is “Fellowship tenure: From 12 months to 24 months”.
- * **The eligible amount of funding is ¥100,000 or more per fiscal year for the research period. Grant amounts will be disbursed in units of ¥100,000.**
- * Application for this grant cannot be made if the Fellow’s tenure in the first fiscal year is four months or shorter. Please refer to section “[I. Call for Proposals](#) 7. [Applying for Multiple Years](#)” for details.
- * Even if an applicant chooses to apply for Funding Category B, the application may still be evaluated as Funding Category A if the need to exceed the range of total budget in Funding Category A is not deemed acceptable in light of the evaluation made at the acceptance of the fellowship award. Regardless of whether you choose Funding Category A or B for your application, it will not affect the review for the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows. Please select the appropriate funding category according to the content of your research plan.

4. Research period

The period of the grant falls within the period of JSPS International Research Fellow’s JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship tenure. **Excluded, however, are tenures of four months or less in the first fiscal year of a newly applied for project.**

5. Application Eligibility (etc.)

(1) Applicant Eligibility

Persons eligible to applying under this application procedure are the host researcher of a person selected for or will be selected for a JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Japan who already has or is scheduled to have more than four months of tenure in the first fiscal year during the period of his/her

application round. (Fellows under JSPS's Short-term and Strategic programs are not eligible for this grant.) (Note 1)

If there is a change of the fellowship starting date, please contact Overseas Fellowship Division, International Program Department, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science ("[V. Inquiries](#)") and follow the prescribed procedure (Note 2).

(Note 1) The date of fellowship commencement is the date that the fellow arrives in Japan. If you are already residing in Japan, the fellowship commencement date will be the starting date that you submit to JSPS. You should apply within the application round that corresponds to the "period to start research" that includes the date you submit to JSPS. The same applies to the host researcher of the fellow who has been granted an extension but has not received funding since the start of FY 2026. Please apply during the application period closest to the day when the request for the extension of fellowship is accepted.

(Note 2) Even if you have changed your date of fellowship commencement after submitting (sending) your Research Proposal Document in each application round and thus are not going to be selected as an International Research Fellow during the "period to start research," as long as your new date of fellowship commencement is on and before November 30, 2026, you can start your funded research project on your new date of fellowship commencement by performing procedures to defer your formal application for grant delivery after the provisional grant decision. If your new date of fellowship commencement is on and after December 1, 2026, your tenure in the first fiscal year of a newly applied project will be four months or shorter and make you ineligible to apply for a KAKENHI. Hence, we will not make an official grant decision even in cases where you have submitted (sent) your Research Proposal Document. You will need to withdraw your formal application for grant delivery and apply for Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows for FY2027 or beyond.

Application round	Start research	Submit (send) Research Proposal Document	Notification of the Review Results, Provisional grant decision (tentative)	Formal application for grant delivery (tentative)	Official grant decision (tentative)
First	1-30 Apr.	22 Jan. (Thu.) -19 Feb. (Thu.)	Late Apr.	Middle of May	Late Jun.
Second	1 May-31 Jul.	7 May (Thu.) -3 Jun. (Wed.)	Middle of Jul.	Middle of Aug.	Early Sep.
Third	1 Aug.-30 Sep.	29 Jul. (Wed.) -26 Aug. (Wed.)	Early Oct.	Middle of Oct.	Early Nov.
Fourth	1 Oct.-30 Nov.	7 Sep. (Mon.) -7 Oct. (Wed.)	Middle of Nov.	Early Dec.	Late Dec.

*The dates are applied for 2026

*The Principal Investigator must submit (send) his/her Research Proposal Document to the affiliated research institution before the deadline set by the institution since it has to submit (send) his/her Research Proposal Document to JSPS during the designated period of submission (sending).

(2) Research Team

In carrying out a research plan under the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows (JSPS International Research Fellow) the host researcher becomes the Principal Investigator and the Fellow becomes the Co-Investigator. The Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator are stipulated as the members of funded project under the Law on the Improvement of Administration of the Budget for Grant-in-Aid (1955, Law No. 179).

1) Principal Investigator (Host Researcher)

The Principal Investigator is a member of a funded project and is the researcher who assumes full responsibility for the implementation of the research project (including summarizing the research achievements).

Under the KAKENHI program, it is not as a rule allowed to change Principal Investigators. In exceptional cases, if the host researcher of the JSPS International Research Fellow is changed, it is allowed to change the Principal Investigator in the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows (JSPS International Research Fellow).

2) Co-Investigator (JSPS International Research Fellow)

The Co-Investigator is a member of a funded research project, who engages in the research activity, collaborating with the Principal Investigator in carrying out the project, while sharing responsibility for its implementation as a KAKENHI-funded project.

KAKENHI funding is not provided to the Co-Investigator (JSPS International Research Fellow).

6. Eligible Research Projects

- 1) Research projects carried out jointly by a JSPS International Research Fellow who has received a provisional notice of selection in FY 2026 and his/her host researcher.
- 2) Research projects carried over from FY 2025 by a JSPS International Research Fellow within the period of his/her fellowship tenure and host researcher, but whose FY2026 Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows has not been disbursed.
- 3) Research projects carried out by a JSPS International Research Fellow and his/her host researcher that started before FY 2025 and whose extension to 24 months was approved during the FY2025 or FY2026 fiscal year but whose KAKENHI grant for FY 2026 has not yet been provisionally approved.

Note: When the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellow is disbursed in FY 2026, research funding cannot be increased during that fiscal year. When a fellowship extension to FY 2027 is approved but a provisional notice of grant disbursement is not received for FY 2026, please newly apply for the grant in the first FY2027 application call issued in January 2027.

*** When applying for a project under 2) or 3) above, a new research plan must be submitted; therefore, it is necessary for the JSPS International Research Fellow to have a tenure of more than four months in FY 2026 (the first fiscal year).**

7. Applying for Multiple Years

When the first fiscal year of a project will be more than four months, the total amount of funding applied for should be divided into fiscal-year periods.

(Ex.1) Fellowship tenure from October 1, 2026 to September 30, 2028 (Fellowship period: 24 months)

	2026.10.1	2027.4.1	9.30	2028.4.1	9.30
Fellowship tenure	First Year			Second Year	
Funding application periods	FY2026 (6 months)		FY2027 (12 months)		FY2028 (6 months)

(Ex 2) Fellowship tenure from June 1, 2026 to May 31, 2028 (Fellowship period: 24 months)

	2026.6.1	2027.4.1	5.31	2028.5.1	5.31
Fellowship tenure	First Year			Second Year	
Funding application periods	FY2026 (10 months)	FY2027 (12 months)			
	FY 2028 (2 months)				

8. Budgets

1) Expenditures that can be covered by the KAKENHI direct expense

Expenditures necessary for the implementation of the research plan (including those necessary for compiling the research achievements) can be covered by the direct expense. For concrete details, please refer to the Spending Rules, Section 2-2

- * If any of the expenditure categories (equipment costs, travel expenses, or personnel cost/honoraria) exceeds 90% of the total yearly expenditure in any fiscal year of the research period, or if the expenditure in category Consumables or Miscellaneous constitutes a significant portion of the total expenditure, the necessity of that spending should be clarified in Research Proposal Document.

The use of direct funding should be thoroughly discussed between the Principal Investigator (host researcher) and Co-Investigator (International Research Fellow), bearing in mind that the purpose of the funding is to support the advancement of the Fellow's research. It should be fully understood that this funding is allocated as necessary money for carrying out the Fellow's research and, as such, is to be spent for things required by that research.

2) Expenditures that cannot be covered by KAKENHI

The following **kinds of spending can not be covered by KAKENHI**:

- ① Costs associated with buildings and other facilities (excluding expenditure for installations necessary for installation of research equipment purchased by the KAKENHI direct expense).
- ② Expenditures for measures to deal with accidents or disasters that occurred during the implementation of funded project
- ③ Per diem in the domestic and overseas travel expenses of the Co-investigator(s) (International Research Fellow)
- ④ Personnel cost/honoraria for the Principal Investigator and Co-Investigator(s) (International Research Fellow)

3) Important Points in the Use of KAKENHI

The Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows is funded under the KAKENHI Multi-year Fund. Therefore, it is possible to use the grant to cover the expenditures extending over fiscal year boundaries.

Moreover, if an amount of grant remains unused by the end of a fiscal year, it can be carried over to the successive fiscal year(s) as long as they are within the overall research period, without going through prior authorization procedures.

If your fellowship tenure will continue into the fiscal year following the final fiscal year of the research period (due to suspension of fellowship, etc.), you may choose to extend your funded project period for one additional year by obtaining prior approval for extension of research period.

4) Continued use of Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows when formally employed by a research institution

If a JSPS International Research Fellow is formally employed and withdraws from the fellowship and loses status, but continues to meet the eligibility criteria to apply for KAKENHI grants*, JSPS will allow said former JSPS International Research Fellow to continue the use of Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows during the original funded project period.

* Researchers who meet the eligibility criteria to apply for KAKENHI grants shall mean those who have the application eligibility as set forth in the Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research—KAKENHI—FY2026:

- Specially Promoted Research, and Scientific Research (S/A)
- Scientific Research (B/C), Challenging Research (Pioneering/Exploratory), and Early-Career Scientists
- Research Activity Start-up (tentative)

9. Research Project and Plan

The research project for which the Grant-in-Aid application is made must be the same as that in the application for the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Overseas Researchers or in the “Confirmation of Recommendation” (when nominated by an overseas nominating authority) (in Japanese).

The research plan for the Grant-in-Aid must coincide with the plan in the application form for the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Overseas Researchers. The purpose of each cost item is to be clearly articulated and rationally justified in the plan.

Also, a concrete annual plan needs to be prepared that includes each fiscal year of the project’s desired duration. It should be prepared in such a way that allows for the research results to be compiled and reported at the end of the project period.

10. Submitting “Confirmation on the Application of the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows (JSPS International Research Fellow) FY2026”

After informing the JSPS International Research Fellow, who is the Co-Investigator, of the grant program’s purpose and system, the host researcher together with the Fellow is to prepare the research plan. After having the Research Fellow read and sign the “Confirmation on the application of the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows (JSPS International Research Fellow) FY2026” (hereafter called the “Confirmation of Grant Application Form”), the host researcher submits the form to his/her affiliated research institution.

The research institution is to verify and maintain the Confirmation of Grant Application Form.

11. Handling of Parallel Grant Application (Restrictions on Parallel Grant Application)

JSPS International Research Fellows are not eligible to apply for grants in other KAKENHI categories. Principal Investigators (host researchers) are not subject to the restrictions on parallel grant application.

12. Appropriate use of KAKENHI (etc.)

(1) Rules Pertaining to KAKENHI

KAKENHI (Series of Single-year Grants) are governed by the “Law on Optimizing Implementation of Budgets Relating to Subsidies” (Law No. 179, 1955), the “Procedures on the Handling of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research” (Public Notice of MEXT), the “Procedures on the Handling of JSPS Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research” (KAKENHI (Series of Single-year Grants)) (Regulations No. 17, 2003) , and other rules.

(2) Appropriate Use of KAKENHI

KAKENHI are funded by the tax of citizens and other sources, so please ensure that the KAKENHI is used efficiently and effectively, for example through planning for the communal use of purchased items. Researchers receiving the KAKENHI have a duty to comply with the related laws, regulations and spending rules by researchers (subsidiary conditions), and also to use such grants appropriately.

To facilitate the appropriate use of KAKENHI, research institutions (host research institution in “Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows”) to which the researchers belong are responsible for the management of KAKENHI. The Administrative work that each research institution is required to carry out (rules for use for institutions) is determined by JSPS.

The research institutions are responsible for the appropriate accounting of KAKENHI. It is desirable, for example, to set up an accounting system for proper management of KAKENHI budget and expenditure, purchase order and delivery inspection, and internal auditing. To prevent improper business transactions, it is important, in addition to appropriate delivery inspections, to make all traders thoroughly informed of the KAKENHI rules and thus obtain cooperation of traders in the prevention of this kind of fraudulent accounting. Research institutions should take rigorous measures so as to eliminate business malpractice.

KAKENHI applicants and their research institutions must have full understanding of the KAKENHI rules prior to the submission of their research proposals.

(3) Penalty for the Case of Infringement of Related Laws and Regulations

If there have been serious falsehoods in the application documents, or violation of relevant laws, regulations and guidelines, the delivery of KAKENHI may be suspended or cancelled.

13. “Guidelines on the Proper Implementation of Competitive Research Funds” etc.

The “Guidelines on the Proper Implementation of Competitive Research Funds” (Agreement of the Liaison Meeting of Related Offices and Ministries on Competitive Research Fund, September 9, 2005; revised December 17, 2021) states common understandings among the research-related ministries and offices in regard to allocation of competitive research funds, in terms of elimination of such inappropriate practices as unreasonable duplication and/or excessive overconcentration in the grant allocation, fraudulent acquisition and/or unlawful use of grants, and misconducts in research activities. The implementation of the KAKENHI system as well as other competitive research funds scheme follows the above-mentioned “Guidelines” and other related rules. Applicants are urged to take special notice of the following points.

(1) Elimination of Unreasonable Duplication and/or Excessive Overconcentration in the Grant Allocation

- 1) Towards elimination of “Unreasonable Duplication and/or Excessive Overconcentration” (*) of competitive research funds, relevant information on funding applications are shared among the pertinent ministries and funding agencies, making use of the Cross-ministerial Research and Development management system (e-Rad).

Therefore, applicants, when submitting more than one KAKENHI applications and/or other competitive research funds, are urged to prepare their application documents with due care to clearly state the differences between the project to be submitted and their other projects so as to make it clear that they do not constitute unreasonable duplication.

In case a particular KAKENHI application is recognized as constituting a case of unreasonable duplication and/or excessive overconcentration, that application may not be granted.

- 2) Applicants are urged to state in the Research Proposal Document the status of applications and acquisitions of other competitive research funds (including those of other ministries) and other research grants (such as name of research grant, title of research project, research period, amount of budget, effort, etc.) as well as the information on all affiliated institutions and positions (such as side jobs, participation in a foreign recruitment program, position of professor emeritus without employment contract, etc.). Untruthful statement or misrepresentation may result in rejection of the research project, cancellation of grant, or reduction of the research budget.
- 3) Applicants are required to make a pledge that they have appropriately reported to their

affiliated research institutions the information necessary to ensure the transparency of all research activities that they are involved in, including information on research funds and side jobs, etc., as well as information on donations and information on supports other than monetary funds, for example, through the provision of facilities and/or equipment. The status of pledge will be confirmed with e-Rad registration details. Please note that applicants cannot make applications if they have not made a pledge. If it is found that applicants have not appropriately made reports contrary to their pledge, it may result in rejection of the research project, cancellation of grant, or reduction of the research budget.

- 4) Inquiries on the status of acceptance of facilities and/or equipment used for the research, the status of management of such facilities/equipment, and request for other information may be made to researchers, etc.

(*) Elimination of Unreasonable Duplication and Excessive Overconcentration in Grant Allocation

**“Guidelines on the Proper Implementation of Competitive Research Funds” -Extract-
(Agreement of the Liaison Meeting of Related Offices and Ministries on Competitive Research Funds, September 9, 2005 ; revised December 17, 2021))**

2. Elimination of Unreasonable Duplication and/or Excessive Overconcentration in the Grant Allocation

(1) Basic Policy of the Unreasonable Reduplication and Excessive Overconcentration

i) In the “Guidelines”, “Unreasonable Duplication” refers to a situation in which more than one competitive research funds are unnecessarily and duplicative allotted to one and the same research project by one and the same researcher. Either of the following cases falls under “Unreasonable Duplication”.

- Cases where simultaneous applications have been made to more than one competitive research funds for substantially the same research project, and where these research projects are redundantly adopted .
- Cases where an application has been made again for substantively the same research project as another project that has already been adopted, and for which the allotment of competitive research funding has already been completed.
- Cases where there is duplication in the use of research funds among more than one research projects.
- Other cases corresponding to those above.

ii) In these guidelines, “Excessive Concentration” is a situation in which the entire research funds that are allotted to one and the same researcher or research group (hereinafter referred to as “researcher, etc.”) in the fiscal year in question exceeds the limit within which they can be used effectively and efficiently, and in which the research funds cannot be used within the research period. Either of the following cases falls under “Excessive Concentration”.

- Cases where, in the light of the abilities of the researcher, etc. and the research methods, etc., excessive research funds are allotted.
- Cases where, in comparison with the effort (the time allocation rate (%) of time necessary for the implementation of the research activities with the entire working time of researcher) that is being allotted to the research project in question, excessive research funds are allotted.
- Cases where the purchase of unnecessarily expensive equipment is carried out.
- Other cases corresponding to the cases mentioned above.

(2) Dealing with “Improper Grant Spending”, “Fraudulent Grant Acquisition” or “Research Misconduct”

- “Improper Grant Spending”, “Fraudulent Grant Acquisition” and “Research Misconduct” refer to the following type of acts respectively.
 - “Improper Grant Spending”:
Use of competitive research funds for other purposes, intentionally or by gross negligence, for example, by conducting fictitious business transactions (“azuokekin”) with a trader through fictitious order placements, or by charging costs higher than actually needed for personnel, travel expenses, etc., or use of competitive research funds in violation of the content of the funding decision or the conditions it implies.
 - “Fraudulent Grant Acquisition”:
Receiving competitive research funds by deception or other fraudulent means, for example, by applying under the name of another researcher, or by making false entries in application documents

- “Research Misconduct”:

Fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism of data, information, or findings published research achievements based on the intent of the researcher, or the failing of the researcher to fulfill the basic duty of care that he/she has.

- (i) **No KAKENHI will be offered, for a fixed period of time, when a researcher or related party has committed an improper grant spending of KAKENHI, has committed a fraudulent grant acquisition of KAKENHI, or has committed a research misconduct.** Moreover, for research projects for which it is established that an improper grant spending of grants, a fraudulent grant acquisition of grants or research misconduct has been committed, the researcher in question may be required to return the given KAKENHI completely or partially.
Moreover, an outline of the improper grant spending of KAKENHI, the fraudulent grant acquisition of KAKENHI, and/or the research misconduct in question of the researcher who falls in those categories (containing an outline of the outcome of the investigation in the research institution, the names of the people involved, the name of the system, the institution they belong to, the research project, the budget, the fiscal year of the research, the fraudulent content, details of the measures taken, etc.) will be made public.
Also researchers who have committed improper grant spending or fraudulent grant acquisition of competitive funding other than the KAKENHI (including funds under the jurisdiction of other Offices and Ministries) etc., and/or has committed research misconduct by means of these competitive funds, and therefore are excluded from receiving these funds in question, for a certain period of time, will not receive the KAKENHI for the same period of time.

Note: This applies to those schemes newly starting a call for proposals in FY2026(and onward) for “competitive research funds other than KAKENHI etc. (including funds under the jurisdiction of other Offices and Ministries)” as well. It also applies to those schemes that ended before FY2025. Refer to the website below for the schemes to which this specifically applies at present.

cf. <https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/compefund>

OPeriod of KAKENHI suspension

[Improper Grant Spending and Fraudulent Grant Acquisition of KAKENHI]

Researcher categories	Extent of the improper grant spending		Period of KAKENHI suspension
I. Researchers who committed improper grant spending of KAKENHI and researchers who conspired in such acts	1. Misappropriation of KAKENHI for personal gain		10 years
II. Researchers who committed improper grant spending of KAKENHI and researchers who conspired in such acts	2. Other than 1.	(i) Cases of major seriousness and maliciousness	5 years
		(ii) Cases other than (i) and (iii)	2 to 4 years
		(iii) Cases of minor seriousness and maliciousness	1 year
III. Researchers who acquired KAKENHI by deception or other fraudulent means and researchers who conspired in such acts	-		5 years
IV. Researchers who were not directly involved in the improper grant spending of KAKENHI, but failed to exercise due care and used the funds as a result.	-		The upper limit is 2 years and the lower limit is 1 year depending on the degree of the breach of duty by the researchers who have the duty of care as a good manager.

For cases judged as subcritical to the punitive suspension measures, sharp reprimand is administered to the individual(s) concerned.

The following cases are pertinent to the “sharp reprimand” penalty.

1. Among the cases II above, the researchers in case that the influence on society and the maliciousness of their conducts are judged to be insignificant and the amount of money involved is small.
2. Among the cases IV above, the researchers in case that the influence on society and the maliciousness of their conducts are judged to be insignificant.

[Research Misconduct]

Individual Involvement in the Misconducts			Negative Impacts on Science and on Public at Large Degree of Maliciousness	Period of KAKENHI Suspension
Subject of Research Misconduct	(a) Particularly malicious individual(s) who, for example, had intention of research misconduct from the very beginning of the research			10 years
	(b) Author(s) of paper(s), etc. related to the research in which research misconduct (s) have been identified (other than (a) above)	Responsible author(s) of the paper(s) in question (corresponding author, lead author or other authors bearing equivalent responsibilities)	Cases where it is judged that the impact on the progress of the science in the field in question and the social impact are major, or the level of maliciousness involved in the acts is high	5 to 7 years
			Cases where it is judged that the impact on the progress of the science in the field in question and the social impact are minor, or the level of maliciousness involved in the acts is low	3 to 5 years
		Author(s) of the paper(s) in question other than the responsible author(s) described above		
	(c) Individual(s) involved who are not the authors of the research paper(s) for which research misconduct(s) are identified.			
Responsible author(s) of paper(s), (corresponding author, lead author or other authors bearing equivalent responsibilities) for which research misconduct(s) are identified, but not involved in the alleged research misconduct			Cases where it is judged that the impact on the progress of the science in the field in question and the social impact are major, or the level of maliciousness involved in the acts is high	2 to 3 years
			Cases where it is judged that the impact on the progress of the science in the field in question and the social impact are low, or the degree of severity of the acts is low	1 to 2 years

* In cases where specific issues for extenuation such as voluntary withdrawal of the paper in question may be taken into account, the suspension period can be shortened as judged fit.

- (ii) The relevant information of each research misconduct case may be provided to the offices of the research funding agencies (including Incorporated Administrative Agencies) under the jurisdiction of the relevant Office. Thereby the penalized researcher may be also subject to restriction in application of and/or participation to research projects in other competitive research funds other than KAKENHI.

Note: “Application and/or participating” means proposing new research projects, applying, responding to call for proposals, newly participating to research as a person involved in collective research, etc. and participating as a Principal Investigator or a person involved in collective research, etc. in research projects in progress (continued research projects).

- (iii) Research institutions are required to comply with the “Guidelines on the Management and Audit of Public Research Funds at Research Institutions (Implementation Standards) (revised in February 1 2021), Ordered by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology” and the “Guidelines for Responding to Research Misconduct (adopted August 26, 2014 by MEXT)”. Therefore, research institutions should pay adequate attention to these two sets of Guidelines when researchers implement their research activities.

In case where the status of the system improvement in line with these guidelines is recognized inadequate based on the survey results, the measures such as the reduction in indirect cost of all kinds of grants disbursed by MEXT or the Incorporated Administrative Agencies under the control of MEXT to the research institution(s) in question, can be taken.

- “Guidelines on the Management and Audit of Public Research Funds at Research Institutions”
URL: https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/kansa/houkoku/1343904_21.htm
- “Guidelines for Responding to Research Misconduct”
URL: https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/jinzai/fusei/index.htm

Note: Examples of improper grant spending, fraudulent grant acquisition and research misconduct of KAKENHI.

- Improper grant spending
 - Someone instructed a trader to forge fictitious transaction pretending to have purchased expendables, made the university pay a KAKENHI for them, and then instructed the trader to keep the money as deposit for future use.
 - Someone instructed a trader to forge a fictitious transaction, obtaining a false invoice which carries item names different from those actually ordered and delivered, and then made the university pay a KAKENHI for them.
 - Someone instructed his/her students to submit false work attendance sheets, made the university pay a KAKENHI for them, and then kept the money as a pooled fund of his/her lab.
 - Someone visited destination not listed on the overseas travel itinerary, in order to have a meeting on cooperative research unrelated to the purpose of a KAKENHI research project.
- (Note) The expenditure of the KAKENHI for fictitious and other transactions, like the ones mentioned in the case examples above, are all considered “misappropriation or misuse”, even if the expenditure was intended for the purpose of conducting the KAKENHI research project.
- Fraudulent grant acquisition
 - A researcher ineligible for the KAKENHI funding made application and acquired a KAKENHI grant.
- Research misconduct
 - Someone manipulated or forged experimental data or figures in a research paper published as an achievement of the research supported by the KAKENHI.
 - Someone published books of his/her achievement with KAKENHI which contained an article translated from an original English research paper with no prior consent from the author(s) nor proper quotation statement.

14. Dissemination, Etc. of Research Achievements supported by KAKENHI

KAKENHI research achievements are made broadly available to other researchers and to the general public, through posting and publication of the “Research Outline” and the “Report on the Research Achievements” on the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research Database (KAKEN) operated by the National Institute of Informatics.

Moreover, the expenses for outreach-related activities including dissemination of international research achievements by publishing research papers, etc., can be covered by direct expenses. The KAKENHI grantees are urged to actively pursue public promotion of their international research achievements through the aid of KAKENHI so as to make them widely known to the public at large.

Upon disseminating the research achievements, please take note of the following issues as well.

(1) The acknowledgment for KAKENHI grant in research publications

When publishing research achievements of the KAKENHI project, researchers should be sure to express that the project has been supported by the KAKENHI grant, by stating in the “Acknowledgment” or other designated section of the paper the “JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number JP8 digits” in the case of English publication or “JSPS 科研費 JP8 桁の課題番号” in the case of Japanese publication.

〈Example〉

【English】 This work was supported by JSPS KAKENHI Grant Number JP12KF3456.

【Japan】 本研究は JSPS 科研費 JP12KF3456 の助成を受けたものです。

(2) The implementation of the fair and conscientious research activities

The research using the KAKENHI should be carried out based on researcher’s own self-awareness and responsibility. Therefore, the publication on the implementation of the research or research achievements, etc. should not come from the government request and the views and responsibilities on the research

achievements should be attributed to the researchers themselves.

On the occasion such as researchers release the research achievements using the KAKENHI broadly to the public, the examples of the indication noting that the research achievements are based on the personal views are given below.

<Example>

【English】 Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the author's (s)' organization, JSPS nor MEXT.

【Japan】 本研究の成果は著者自らの見解等に基づくものであり、所属研究機関、資金配分機関及び国の見解等を反映するものではありません。

(3) Promotion of Open Access to Research Papers, Etc.

As we have been witnessing increasing openness of research results on an international scale to aim for global knowledge sharing, the promotion of open access through, for example, the publication of scientific papers is expected to return research results widely to the public and to help develop science and technology, create innovation, and solve global issues.

As a government policy of Japan, starting from a new KAKENHI call for proposals in FY2025, the publication of KAKENHI-funded, peer-reviewed academic papers and supporting data on “institutional repositories and other information infrastructure” will be required immediately after they are published in academic journals, in accordance with the “Basic Policy for the Realization of Immediate Open Access to Academic Papers, etc. (February 16, 2024, Decision of Council for Integrated Innovation Strategy)” (hereinafter referred to as the “Basic Policy”) and the “Concrete Measures to Implement the ‘Basic Policy for the Realization of Immediate Open Access to Academic Papers, etc. (February 16, 2024, Decision of Council for Integrated Innovation Strategy)’ (Revised on October 8, 2024, Agreement of Related Offices and Ministries)” (hereinafter referred to as the “Concrete Measures”).

“Institutional repositories and other information infrastructure” here means those that enable search for academic papers and supporting data on the research data infrastructure system (NII Research Data Cloud). Under the KAKENHI program, they will become searchable on the research data infrastructure system through the linkage of information on research results entered in Reports on the Results (and Reports on the State of Implementation) via the KAKEN database.

Moreover, we plan to add and revise items related to the information on research results to be entered in Reports on the Results and other documents in order to grasp the implementation status of open access efforts. In addition to existing items, researchers will be required to enter the following items: whether their academic papers and supporting data are subject to immediate open access, whether they have given immediate open access, reason(s) why immediate open access is difficult (if they have not given immediate open access), and identifiers, such as URLs to landing pages of the “institutional repositories and other information infrastructure” on which their academic papers and supporting data are published.

○Promotion of Open Access to KAKENHI-funded Research Papers (JSPS website)

URL: https://www.jsp.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/01_seido/08_openaccess/index.html

(4) Management of Research Data

On October 23, 2023, JSPS established and published its policy on the handling of research data. This policy stipulates JSPS's basic principles regarding the storage, management, and publication of research data generated during research activities funded by KAKENHI and other research grants provided by JSPS.

As such, the Principal Investigator of an adopted KAKENHI-funded research project must prepare a Data Management Plan (DMP) based on the data policy and other rules of his/her research institution, including the storage and management of research data generated as results during research activities as well as the publication or non-publication of such data, and conduct research activities while storing, managing, and publishing research data in accordance with the plan. In addition, he/she must add metadata specified by JSPS (*1) to research data that is subject to management in accordance with the DMP, etc.

The plan can be revised in the process of carrying out research activities.

Research institutions are requested to formulate their data policies stipulating such matters as the scope of data managed under and covered by the policies and criteria for publishing and sharing such research data. At the same time, they are asked to create an environment, develop a support system, and take other measures, so that researchers can conduct research data management based on data policies.

(Reference) Addition of metadata

Metadata specified by JSPS refers to common metadata items specified in the Basic Policies on the Management and Utilization of Research Data Created by Publicly-Funded Research Activities (April 27, 2021, Decision of Council for Integrated Innovation Strategy) and other metadata items additionally specified by JSPS, based on its discussions on the purpose, scope, etc. of each grant.

You can register metadata on (the public platform of) the NII Research Data Cloud research data infrastructure system (*2), and search for registered metadata (of research data that has been made public) on the CiNii Research search platform of the said system.

You can also register metadata on other interoperable platforms that enable metadata search (including institutional repositories other than JAIRO Cloud (*3), a leading institutional repository, databases that obtain DOIs via JaLC (*4), and sectoral databases linked to CiNii Research (*5)).

Please consult with a person in charge of metadata registration at the affiliated institution.

(Reference) Supplementary terminology notes

- (*1) Metadata refers to information on the nature of the very data for publication, including the created date and time, creator, format, and title of data, and is utilized mainly for centralized and efficient management of data.
- (*2) The research data infrastructure system (NII Research Data Cloud) refers to a system positioned as the “core platform for the management and utilization of research data in Japan” in the Basic Policies on the Management and Utilization of Research Data Created by Publicly-Funded Research Activities. The system consists of GakuNin RDM, a management platform to manage research data, JAIRO Cloud, a public platform for the publication of research data, and a search platform for metadata search.
- (*3) JAIRO Cloud is a cloud-based service to provide an institutional repository environment (available for JPCOAR members), jointly operated by the Japan Consortium for Open Access Repository (JPCOAR) and the National Institute of Informatics (NII). JPCOAR operates its community site and user helpdesk, among others, while the NII (*6) is in charge of development.
- (*4) Japan Link Center (JaLC) is an institution with the authority to add digital object identifiers (DOIs) under international standards to academic contents including research papers in electronic form. The institution is jointly operated by the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), the National Institute for Materials Science (NIMS), the NII, and the National Diet Library (NDL).
- (*5) CiNii Research is a database service that allows anyone to search for academic information, such as research papers, books and magazines, and doctoral theses. The service is developed and operated by the NII.
- (*6) The NII refers to the National Institute of Informatics, Inter-University Research Institute Corporation Research Organization of Information and Systems.

JSPS plans to ask researchers to report information on published research data that is generated during their KAKENHI-funded projects to JSPS in their Reports on the Results or Reports on the State of Implementation as well as to publish them as research results on the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research Database (KAKEN), in accordance with their DMPs.

○The Sixth Science, Technology, and Innovation Basic Plan (Cabinet Decision on March 26, 2021)
P.58-61

URL: <https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/kihonkeikaku/6honbun.pdf>

○Basic Policies on the Management and Utilization of Research Data Created by Publicly-Funded Research Activities (April 27, 2021, Decision of Council for Science, Technology and Innovation)

URL: <https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/tyousakai/kokusaiopen/sanko1.pdf>

○Basic Policies on the Handling of Research Data of Projects Funded by JSPS Grants

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

15. Code of Conduct for Scientists to Adhere

To ensure the quality of scientific knowledge and to gain trust of society on scientists and scientific communities, it is essential to exercise fair and conscientious research activities with the adherence to the code of conduct for scientists. Applicants must understand and practice the contents of both the Statement “Code of Conduct for Scientists -Revised Version-” (section I. “Responsibilities of Scientists”) by the Science Council of Japan and the booklet “For the Sound Development of Science -The Attitude of a Conscientious Scientist-” (especially section I “What Is a Responsible Research Activity?”) issued by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS).

And also take note that upon the formal application for grant delivery, it shall be confirmed through the electric application system whether the Principal Investigator and Co-investigator(s) will have taken the

[Extraction from the Statement “Code of Conduct for Scientists – Revised Version –” by the Science Council of Japan dated on 25 January 2013]

I Responsibilities of Scientists

(Basic Responsibilities of Scientists)

1 Scientists shall recognize that they are responsible for assuring the quality of the specialized knowledge and skills that they themselves create, and for using their expert knowledge, skills and experience to contribute to the health and welfare of humankind, the safety and security of society and the sustainability of the global environment.

(Attitude of Scientists)

2 Scientists shall always make judgments and act with honesty and integrity, endeavoring to maintain and improve their own expertise, abilities and skills, and shall make the utmost effort to scientifically and objectively demonstrate the accuracy and validity of the knowledge they create through scientific research.

(Scientists in Society)

3 Scientists shall recognize that scientific autonomy is upheld by public trust and the mandate of the people, understand the relationships between science, technology, society, and the natural environment from a wide-ranging perspective, and act in an appropriate manner.

(Research that Answers to Social Wishes)

4 Scientists shall recognize that they are responsible for answering to the wishes of society to investigate into truths and to achieve various issues. When using research funds that are to be provided for establishing the research environment and for conducting research scientists shall always recognize that such broad social expectations exist.

(Accountability and Disclosure)

5 Scientists shall strive to disclose and actively explain the roles and significance of their own research, evaluate the possible effects of their research on people, society and the environment as well as the changes that their research might engender, neutrally and objectively disclose the results of this evaluation, and build a constructive dialogue with society.

(Dual Use of Scientific Research Outcomes)

6 Scientists shall recognize that there exist possibilities that their research results, contrary to their own intentions, may be used for destructive actions, and shall select appropriate means and methods as allowed by society in conducting research and publicizing the results.

* URL: <http://www.scj.go.jp/ja/scj/kihan/>

[“For the Sound Development of Science – The Attitude of a Conscientious Scientist –” by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)]

(Japanese version (text version)) (“For the Sound Development of Science” Editorial Committee on JSPS)

* URL: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/file/storage/general/j-kousei/data/rinri.pdf>

16. Review Panels and Other Matters

(1) Review Methods and Other Matters

The review for the KAKENHI is carried out by the Scientific Research Grant Committee of the JSPS, and it is based on the Research Proposal Document. The review takes place behind closed doors.

As applicants provide unpublished research results and research ideas, and other information in their Research Proposal Documents on the premise that the review will be conducted privately, JSPS asks reviewers to maintain their confidentiality obligations, including the following.

- In order to protect the intellectual property of the applicants and ensure fairness of the peer review system, reviewers must not disclose the content of the Research Proposal Documents or any other information, in whatever form, that they learn in the course of the review to any other person including their superiors, colleagues, or subordinates.
- Reviewers must not use any information that they learn in the course of the review for their own benefit.
- Reviewers have the obligation to keep the review materials under strict control.

The details on “assessment rules” (“Rules concerning the review and assessment for the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research” (called “review and assessment rules”)) can be checked on the JSPS website.

(URL: https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/01_seido/03_shinsa/index.html).

(2) Notification of the Review Results

The results of the application screening for the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS International Research Fellows will be notified by document to the host research institutions on the following schedule. (“[II. Instructions for Prospective Applicants 4. Schedule after Submitting the Research Proposal Documents \(plan\)](#)”, “[III. Instructions for Administrative Staff of Research Institution 3. Submission and Other Matters of the Research Proposal Document \(Preparing the Research Proposal Document\)](#)”)

II. Instructions for Prospective Applicants

1. Preparation of KAKENHI Research Proposal Documents

Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research is a competitive research funds intended to provide financial support for creative and pioneering research conducted by individual researchers. Therefore, the contents of the Research Proposal Document must be original planned by the applicant.

In preparing Research Proposal Document, plagiarism and/or misappropriation of the research contents of others are strictly impermissible. Applicants must comply with research ethics.

In addition, if the research plan involves traveling abroad, etc., applicants should carefully determine the feasibility of the plan.

The JSPS KAKENHI Electronic Application System is used to prepare and submit (send) Research Proposal Document.

(URL for KAKENHI Electronic Application System: <https://www.shinsei.jps.go.jp/kaken/index.html>)

In preparing their Research Proposal Document, Principal Investigators use the login ID and password for the e-Rad system issued by the host research institution. The proposal should be prepared and submitted (sent) to the host research institution based on the “Supplement: FY2026 Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows (JSPS International Research Fellow) (Forms / Procedures for Preparing and Entering a Research Proposal Document).”

The host research institution will compile all the Research Proposal Document it received and submit (send) them to JSPS. Therefore, the Principal Investigator should submit his/her Research Proposal Document to the administrative section of his/her host research institution by the deadline set by the host research institution. (It is not allowed to submit the Research Proposal Document directly to JSPS and paper-based applications will not be accepted.)

Also, the Principal Investigator should have the Co-Investigator read and sign the “Confirmation of Grant Application Form” and then submit it to his/her affiliated research institution. If the “Confirmation of Grant Application Form” and the Research Proposal Document cannot be submitted at the same time for such reasons as the Fellow not yet arriving in Japan, it will be okay to submit them to the host research institution as soon as the Fellow arrives.

The deadline for submission from the host research institutions to JSPS is “[III. Instructions for Administrative Staff of Research Institution 3. Submission and Other Matters of the Research Proposal Document \(Preparing the Research Proposal Document\)](#)”.

2. Points to Keep in Mind When Preparing the Research Proposal Document

- (1) The Research Proposal Documents (PDF files) that have been approved and submitted (sent) by the research institution cannot be corrected or otherwise revised after the submission deadline. (“[III. Instructions for Administrative Staff of Research Institution 3. Submission and Other Matters of the Research Proposal Document \(Preparing the Research Proposal Document\)](#)”)
- (2) Each year, errors are found in the entry of the requested grant amount. Make sure to enter the amount in units of thousand yen (e.g., if the amount is 100,000 yen, enter “100 thousand yen”).
- (3) For details regarding the use of the KAKENHI Electronic Application System, please refer to its Operation Manual (URL: <https://www.shinsei.jps.go.jp/kaken/topkakenhi/download-ka.html#tebiki2>).
- (4) For Budget, please check “[I. Call for Proposals 8. Budgets](#)”. Moreover, “buyout” (i.e., the cost for hiring someone taking over a part of the duties other than research) cannot be covered by the direct expense for the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS International Research Fellows.

3. Handling of Personal Information

The personal information included in the Research Proposal Document and any personal information registered in Electronic Application System will be used for the elimination of unreasonable duplication and/or excessive concentration in the allocation of competitive research funds and for the appropriate funding of KAKENHI grants, and to conduct questionnaires on scientific technology policies including KAKENHI grants. (This includes providing the data to external contractor(s) in charge of electronic processing and management of the KAKENHI data.) The information included in the Research Proposal Document is to be provided to the e-Rad system. (The information registered in the e-Rad system is utilized for proper assessment of research and development by national funding, development of effective and efficient comprehensive strategy, planning and development of resource allocation policy, etc. Therefore the information will be supplied to the Cabinet Office through the e-Rad system. The applicant may be requested to cooperate in verification of the information and other related works.)

The information on the adopted KAKENHI projects (the title of research project, the name of PI and his/her

affiliated research institution, the grant to be delivered, research period, etc.) is categorized as “information that is scheduled to be made available”, as laid down in Article 78, paragraph 2, item (a) of the “Act on the Protection of Personal Information” (Act No.57 of 2003). The information will be made public through press release materials, the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research Database (KAKEN) of the National Institute of Informatics, and other means.

The researchers and their affiliated research institutions are requested to carry out the application procedures with full understanding of the information handling (utilization, provision and disclosure) stated above.

4. Schedule after Submitting the Research Proposal Documents (plan)

The selection results for the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows (JSPS International Research Fellow) will be notified to the host research institutions after the KAKENHI screening process is concluded. Grant amounts will be disbursed in units of ¥100,000.

The schedule (tentative) for issuing notifications of informal decision of grant disbursement is as follows:

There may be changes in the plan including the timing of the provisional grant decision. When the changes occur it will be announced on the JSPS website and through the research institutions.

Schedule for provisional grant decision (tentative):

		Notification of the Review Results, Provisional grant decision	Formal application for grant delivery	Official grant decision	Grant delivery
1	New research projects (First application round)	Late Apr.	Middle of May	Late Jun.	Middle of Jul.
2	New research projects (Second application round)	Middle of Jul.	Early Aug.	Early Sep.	Late Sep.
3	New research projects (Third application round)	Early Oct.	Middle of Oct.	Early Nov.	Late Nov.
4	New research projects (Fourth application round)	Middle of Nov.	Early Dec.	Late Dec.	Middle of Jan.

* All dates for official grant decision in items 1-4 apply to 2026. The date of grant delivery 4 is applied for 2027.

* It is, to be reminded that, depending on the situation of the national budget, etc, enactment, this schedule may be subject to change at a later stage.

* With regard to new research projects, even if the tenure of International Research Fellows did not begin during the “period to start research” (“[I. Call for Proposals 5. Application Eligibility \(etc.\)](#)”), as long as their new date of fellowship commencement is on and before November 30, 2026, they will not need to withdraw their formal application for grant delivery or apply again by performing procedures to defer their formal application for grant delivery.

However, in cases where their new date of fellowship commencement is on and after December 1, 2026, they will need to withdraw their formal application for grant delivery.

* Regarding the use of grant, it is allowed to start research and follow necessary procedures such as making contract on and after the date of notification of grant decision and the date of fellowship commencement.

5. Completion of Research Ethics Education Coursework, etc.

Principal Investigators(PI) and Co-Investigators taking part in a research funded by the KAKENHI, are requested to have completed properly the following procedures including research ethics, by the time they submits the formal application for grant delivery of a newly adopted research project in the FY2026 Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research, and upon the formal application for a grant delivery, it shall be confirmed through the KAKENHI electronic application system whether they will have taken the research ethics education coursework, etc.

If a PI and Co-I completed the research ethics related procedures in the past, or has moved from the research institute at which he/she completed the procedure, he/she should check with the administrative section of his/her host research institution for the validity of the procedure he/she conducted in the past.

[Actions to be taken by the Principal Investigator]

- The PI must either read through and learn the teaching materials by him/herself concerning the research ethics education coursework such as “For the Sound Development of Science – The Attitude of a Conscientious Scientist” published by the JSPS Editorial Committee of “For the Sound Development of Science, the “e-Learning Course on Research Ethics [eL CoRE] or “APRIN e-learning program (eAPRIN).”, etc. or attend a lecture on research ethics conducted by research institutions based on the

“Guidelines for Responding to Misconduct in Research, by the time of the formal application for grant delivery.

- The PI must understand thoroughly and exercise the proper research practices in conducting his/her research, from amongst the contents of both the Statement “Code of Conduct for Scientists-Revised Version-” by the Science Council of Japan and the booklet “For the Sound Development of Science -The Attitude of a Conscientious Scientist-” issued by JSPS, by the time of the formal application for grant delivery.
- From the prospective Co-Investigator (JSPS International Research Fellow), the PI must
 - ① submit a “Confirmation of Grant Application Form” to the affiliated research institution clearly stating the Co-I’s intention to complete of a seminar attendance or other kinds of coursework relevant to research ethics by the time of the formal application for the grant delivery of the research project in question.
 - ② ascertain that the Co-I (JSPS International Research Fellow) has actually completed the coursework such as an attendance at the lecture on research ethics by the time of the formal application for the grant delivery.

[Actions to be taken by the Co-Investigator (JSPS International Research Fellow)]

- Submit “Confirmation of Grant Application Form” to the PI clearly stating “the completion of a seminar attendance or other kinds of coursework relevant to research ethics by the time of the formal application for the grant delivery of the research project in question”.
- The Co-I must either read through and learn the teaching materials by him/herself concerning the research ethics education coursework such as “For the Sound Development of Science – The Attitude of a Conscientious Scientist” published by the JSPS Editorial Committee of “For the Sound Development of Science, the “e-Learning Course on Research Ethics [eL CoRE] or “APRIN e-learning program (eAPRIN)”, etc., or attend a lecture on research ethics conducted by research institutions based on “Guidelines for Responding to Misconduct in Research (adopted by MEXT on August 26, 2014), and report the PI to the effect that he/she has done, by the time of the formal application for the grant delivery by the PI.
- The Co-I must understand thoroughly and exercise the proper research practices in conducting their research, from amongst the contents of both the statement “Code of Conduct for Scientists -Revised Version-” by the Science Council of Japan and the booklet “For the Sound Development of Science -The Attitude of a Conscientious Scientist-” issued by JSPS, and report the PI to the effect that he/she has done, by the time of the formal application for the grant delivery by the PI.

6. Registration of the Researcher Information in “researchmap”

The “researchmap (URL: <https://researchmap.jp/>)” is the Japan’s largest researcher information database as a general guide to Japanese researchers. The information on the research achievements registered in the researchmap is ready to be openly available over the Internet and the database itself is linked to e-Rad, many university faculty databases and so on. The Japanese Government as a whole is going to further utilize the researchmap. Please be sure to register your information (as a researcher) on the site.

< Inquiries >

Service Support Center (in charge of the “researchmap”)

Department for Information Infrastructure Japan Science and Technology Agency

Web inquiry form: <https://researchmap.jp/public/inquiry/>

III. Instructions for Administrative Staff of Research Institution

1. Issues to Be Completed Beforehand by the “Research Institution”

(1) Confirming Applicants and Informing Them of the Application Guidelines

The research institution is to confirm the applicants for the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows (JSPS International Research Fellow) using the “List of Eligible Persons” on the menu of the JSPS Electronic Application System, and inform them of the contents of the application guidelines. (Please see “[III Instructions for Administrative Staff of Research Institution 3 Submission and Other Matters of the Research Proposal Document \(Preparing the Research Proposal Document\)](#)”).

When carrying out applicant-related work, the research institution must maintain close contact with the personal administering the JSPS International Research Fellow Program in each research institution and prevent the leakage of any applicant information.

(2) Submission of the “Self-Assessment Checklist on the Improvement of the System” Based on the “Guidelines on the Management and Audit of Public Research Funds at Research Institutions (Implementation Standards)”

When implementing the adopted research projects with KAKENHI grant, the research institutions must comply with the content of the “Guidelines on the Management and Audit of Public Research Funds at Research Institutions (Implementation Standards)” (Adopted by the Minister of MEXT. Revised on February 1, 2021) (hereinafter referred to as “Guidelines on Public Research Funds”), they must set up a system of the management and audit for implementing the public research funds and report the state of implementation and other matters by submitting a “Self-Assessment Checklist on the Improvement of the System based on the Guidelines on the Management and Audit of Public Research Funds at Research Institutions (Implementation Standards)”.

Therefore, “the research institutions with which the Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators who are applying for KAKENHI in FY2026 are affiliated” and “the research institutions with which the Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators who are planning to continue their research projects using KAKENHI in FY2026” **must submit in accordance with the procedure and forms posted on the MEXT the “Self-Assessment Checklist on the Improvement of the System” to the Office of Competitive Research Funding Administration, Research Environment Division, Science and Technology Policy Bureau of the MEXT by the last day of the application submittal period (See Note 1.) via e-Rad.** For details, refer to the website (URL: https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/kansa/houkoku/1324571.htm). If the “Self-Assessment Checklist on the Improvement of the System” has already submitted in April 2025 or later, it is not necessary to submit it again.

Researcher affiliated to a research institution which has not turned in the said checklist cannot receive the official grant decision.

Note1: The final days of submittal periods are set based on the application round. Please see “[III Instructions for Administrative Staff of Research Institution, 3. Submission and Other Matters of the Research Proposal Document \(Preparing the Research Proposal Document\)](#)”, (2).

Note2: When using e-Rad, an ID and password for the research institution are necessary.

< Inquiries >

(Concerning forms and submission of the Guidelines on Public research Funds)

Office of Competitive Research Funding Administration, Research Environment Division, Science and Technology Policy Bureau, MEXT

Telephone: 03-5253-4111 (ext.3866,3827)

e-mail: kenkyuhi@mext.go.jp

URL: http://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/kansa/houkoku/1324571.htm

(Concerning the research institute e-Rad registration)

Helpdesk of the Cross-ministerial Research and Development management system (e-Rad) of MEXT

Telephone: 0570-050-060 (Navi Dial)

Office hours: 9:00-18:00, except on Saturdays, Sundays, National Holidays and the New Year Holidays (from December 29 until January 3)

URL: <https://www.e-rad.go.jp/organ/entry.html>

*Time period when e-Rad is available for use 0:00 - 24:00 (in operation 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. However, even during the above-mentioned time period, it may happen that the operation of e-Rad is disrupted or suspended, when

maintenance and inspection is being carried out. If the operation is scheduled to be disrupted or suspended, this will be announced beforehand on the portal site)

(3) Submission of the “Checklist Pertaining to the Current Status” Based on the “Guidelines for Responding to Research Misconduct”

When implementing the research projects using KAKENHI grant, the research institutions must comply with the contents of the “Guidelines for Responding to Research Misconduct” (Adopted by the Minister of MEXT on 26 August 2014) (hereinafter referred to as “Guidelines on Research Misconduct”) and submit the “Checklist Pertaining to the Current Status based on the Guidelines for Responding to Research Misconduct” (hereinafter referred to as “Checklist on the Research Misconduct”).

Therefore, “the research institutions with which the Principal Investigators and Co-investigators who are applying for KAKENHI in FY2026 are affiliated” and “the research institutions with which the Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators who are planning to continue their research projects using KAKENHI in FY2026 are affiliated” **must submit in accordance with the procedure and forms posted on the MEXT the “Checklist on the Research Misconduct” to the Office for Research Integrity Promotion, Research Environment Division, Science and Technology Policy Bureau of the MEXT by the last day of the application submittal period. (See Note 1.) via e-Rad.** For details, refer to the website (URL: https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/jinzai/fusei/1420301_00001.htm) If the “Checklist on the Research Misconduct” has already been submitted in April 2025 or later it is not necessary to submit it again.

Researchers affiliated to a research institution which has not turned in the said checklist cannot receive the official grant decision.

*Please note that while the “Checklist on the Research Misconduct” is the same in using e-Rad for submission with the “Self-Assessment Checklist on the Improvement of the System”, the submission destination is different. Both checklists must be submitted.

Note 1 : The final days of submittal periods are set based on the application round. Please see “[III Instructions for Administrative Staff of Research Institution, 3. Submission and Other Matters of the Research Proposal Document \(Preparing the Research Proposal Document\)](#),” (2).

Note 2 : When using e-Rad, an ID and a password for the research institution are necessary.

< Inquiries >

(Concerning the format and submission of Guidelines for Responding to Research Misconduct)

* Differs from the contact information for the Guidelines on Public Research Funds.

Office for Research Integrity Promotion, Research Environment Division, Science and Technology Policy Bureau, MEXT

Telephone: 03-6734-3874

e-mail: jinken@mext.go.jp

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

(Concerning the research institute on e-Rad registration)

Helpdesk of the Cross-ministerial Research and Development Management System (e-Rad) of MEXT

Telephone: 0570-057-060 (Navi Dial)

(Office hours: 9:00-18:00, except Saturdays, Sundays, National Holidays and the New Year Holidays (from December 29 until January 3))

URL: <https://www.e-rad.go.jp/organ/entry.html>

*Time period when e-Rad is available for use 0:00 - 24:00 (in operation 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. However, even during the above-mentioned time period, the operation of e-Rad may be disrupted or suspended, when maintenance and inspection is being carried out. If the operation is scheduled to be disrupted or suspended, this will be announced beforehand on the portal site

(4) Implementation of a Research Ethics Education Coursework Based on the “Guidelines on Research Misconduct,” etc.

Principal Investigators and Co-Investigators must fulfill the obligations described below prior to submitting the formal application for grant delivery if you are starting a new research project, and prior to submitting the formal application for grant delivery or request for payment if you are taking part in an ongoing research project that is scheduled to continue into FY2026.

- Either to read through and learn the teaching materials by oneself concerning the research ethics education coursework such as “For the Sound Development of Science -The Attitude of a Conscientious

Scientist-” (JSPS Editing Committee “For the Sound Development of Science”), the “e-Learning Course on Research Ethics (eL CoRE)”, the “APRIN e-learning program (eAPRIN)”, etc., or to attend a lecture on research ethics conducted by research institutions based on the “Guidelines on Research Misconduct” at their host research institution

- To understand thoroughly and to exercise the proper research practices in conducting their research, from amongst the contents of both the Statement “Code of Conduct for Scientists -Revised Version-” by the Science Council of Japan and the booklet “For the Sound Development of Science -The Attitude of a Conscientious Scientist-” issued by JSPS

To that end, each research institution is requested to disseminate broadly what the researchers should consider, in conducting of their researches as well as carrying out an ethics education in research training session based on the “Guidelines on Research Misconduct”.

(5) Ensuring Research Integrity Among Research Institutions

In order to promote the creation of science, technology, and innovation in Japan, we must continue to strengthen overseas joint research with various partners based on the principle of open science. At the same time, in light of newly emerging risks as a consequence of the globalization and openness of research activities in the recent years, there is a growing concern that the values of openness and transparency which constitute the basis of the research environment will be lost and the danger of researchers unknowingly being trapped in conflict of interest or 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, it is vital for universities and research institutions, etc. to observe the “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 the Integrated Innovation Strategy Promotion Council for Science, Technology and Innovation)” and formulate relevant rules and systems to manage conflict of interests and conflict of responsibilities, etc., and to autonomously secure the soundness and fairness of research (research integrity) among researchers and at universities and research institutions, etc.

From such perspective, MEXT and JSPS check whether reasonable efforts can be secured while eliminating unreasonable duplication and excessive concentration of competitive research funds and ensuring transparency of research activities. In addition, MEXT and JSPS may make inquiries to affiliated institutions, as necessary, on the status of formulation of rules and status of identification and management of information as affiliated institution.

- “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 the Integrated Innovation Strategy Promotion Council for Science, Technology and Innovation)”
URL: https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/tougosenryaku/integrity_housin.pdf

2. Issues that Need to Be Verified when Compiling the Application Forms (Preparing the Research Proposal Document)

(1) Ascertainment of the Eligibility for KAKENHI Application

It should be verified whether the Principal Investigator and the Co-Investigator listed in the Research Proposal Document are researchers who meet the requirements that are stipulated in the Application Procedures.

Moreover, it should be verified certainly that they must not be categorized as ineligible for grant acquisition in FY2026 in KAKENHI and other competitive research funds, as a penalty for their improper grant spending, fraudulent grant acquisition, or research misconduct.

(2) Verification with the Principal Investigator

The research institution should verify whether the Principal Investigator who have been listed in the Research Proposal Document have completed the Research Proposal Document, after confirming the description in the column “[I. Call for Proposals](#)” in this Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research.

(3) Verifying the “Confirmation of Grant Application Form”

Verify whether the Principal Investigator indicated in the Research Proposal Document had the Co-Investigator (JSPS International Research Fellow) read and sign the “Confirmation of Grant Application Form”.

3. Submission and Other Matters of the Research Proposal Document (Preparing the Research Proposal Document)

(1) Confirmation and Approval of the Research Proposal Document

- 1) The research institution should access the “KAKENHI Electronic Application System”, using the ID and the password for e-Rad, obtain the information of the Research Proposal Document (PDF files) that the Principal Investigator(s) prepared, and verify their contents and other matters.
- 2) The research institution should perform the “approval/submission (transmission)” process on all the Research Proposal Documents (PDF files) that has no mistakes in their contents. Only those Research Proposal Documents whose application status changed to “Being accepted by JSPS” by the submission deadline will have been correctly submitted to JSPS.
- 3) After the Research Proposal Documents (PDF files) are submitted (sent) to JSPS, applicants can still draw back their Research Proposal Documents for necessary corrections and resubmission prior to the submission deadline. However, DO NOT draw back the Research Proposal Documents on the date of the deadline. The System will be very busy and you may not be able to resubmit the application in time.
- 4) The research institution should perform the “approval” process on all the Research Proposal Documents (PDF files) that has no mistakes in their contents.

(2) Submittal (transmission) Periods

Application round	Start research	Submit (send) Research Proposal Document	Notification of the Review Results, Provisional funding decision (tentative)	Formal application for grant delivery (tentative)	Funding decision (tentative)	Grant delivery (tentative)
First	1-30 Apr.	22 Jan. (Thu.) -19 Feb. (Thu.)	Late Apr.	Middle of May.	Late Jun.	Middle of Jul.
Second	1 May -31 Jul.	7 May (Thu.) -3 Jun. (Wed.)	Middle of Jul.	Middle of Aug.	Early Sep.	Late Sep.
Third	1 Aug. -30 Sep.	29 Jul. (Wed.) -26 Aug. (Wed.)	Early Oct.	Middle of Oct.	Early Nov.	Late Nov.
Fourth	1 Oct. -30 Nov.	7 Sep. (Mon.) -7 Oct. (Wed.)	Middle of Nov.	Early Dec.	Late Dec.	Middle of Jan.

* All dates for official grant decision in items 1-4 apply to 2026. The date of grant delivery 4 is applied for 2027.

* It is, to be reminded that, depending on the situation of the national budget, etc, enactment, this schedule may be subject to change at a later stage.

* With regard to new research projects, even if the tenure of International Research Fellows did not begin during the “period to start research” (“[1. Call for Proposals 5. Application Eligibility \(etc.\)](#)”), as long as their new date of fellowship commencement is on and before November 30, 2026, they will not need to withdraw their formal application for grant delivery or apply again by performing procedures to defer their formal application for grant delivery. However, in cases where their new date of fellowship commencement is on and after December 1, 2026, they will need to withdraw their formal application for grant delivery.

* Regarding the use of grant, it is allowed to start research and follow necessary procedures such as making contract on and after the date of notification of grant decision and the date of fellowship commencement.

The date of fellowship commencement is the date that the fellow arrives in Japan. If you are already residing in Japan, the fellowship commencement date will be the starting date that you submit to JSPS. You should apply within the application round that corresponds to the “period to start the fellowship” that includes the date you submit to JSPS.

If eligible applicants are not shown on the List of Eligible Persons, the research institution should contact JSPS by no later than one week before the last day of the subject application submitted (send) round. In particular, in cases where eligible applicants who have been selected in the second round of recruitment of JSPS International Research Fellows (Standard) wish to apply during the period of the third application round, the research institution should make sure to contact JSPS regarding the addition of such eligible applicants to the list.

Regarding International Research Fellows whose tenure has been extended but their grant for FY 2026 or after has not been officially approved, a grant application should be submitted as close to the first day of the extended fellowship period as possible. When applying for an extension, therefore, timing as to when you actually want to use the funding should be taken into consideration.

Submittal Deadline: 16:30, the final day of each submittal period (This deadline should be strictly observed.)

***Research Proposal Document that is submitted (send) after this deadline will not be accepted for any reason. Therefore, the documents should be submitted (send) well in advance.**

(3) Points to Keep in Mind

- 1) Please refer to the KAKENHI Electronic Application System Operation Manual for details on electronic application processing. (URL: <https://www.shinsei.jps.go.jp/kaken/topkakenhi/download-ka.html#tebiki2>)
- 2) Applicants cannot draw back, resubmit, or otherwise undo the submission of their Research Proposal Documents after the submission deadline. JSPS does not accept any corrections to the project duration or requested grant amount after the submission deadline. Therefore, applicants should check their Research Proposal Documents thoroughly before submitting (sending) them.

4. Others

(1) Notification of Changes in a Research Institution as Specified by MEXT Minister in Article 2 of the “Procedure on Handling Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (MEXT notice)”

If changes in one of the following items have been scheduled, research institutions should promptly report the content of these changes to the Scientific Research Promotion Division of the Research Promotion Bureau of MEXT.

- 1) Abolition or dissolution of the research institution
- 2) Name and address of a research institution, and name of the representative
- 3) Matters concerning laws, regulation, endowment acts, and other rules that prescribe the purpose of establishment, the business content and the internal organization of the research institution

IV. Other Relevant Issues

1. Support through Platforms for Advanced Technologies and Research Resources

In order to respond effectively to the diverse needs of researchers of KAKENHI research projects, the Grant-in-Aid for Transformative Research Areas (A) - Platforms for Advanced Technologies and Research Resources forms a resource and technical support platform for research (hereinafter referred to as “Platform”) under the close cooperation of relevant institutes with inter-university research institutes and Joint Usage/Research Centers, or International Joint Usage / Research Center as core institutes. Together with providing technical support towards individual research projects and providing advanced problem solving methods to researchers, it provides an integral promotion of cooperation between researchers, interdisciplinary integration, and human resources development. Applications for technical support, etc. are open for each of the Platforms below where it concerns research projects carried out through KAKENHI. Researchers desiring technical support, etc. from each of the Platforms are requested to check their respective websites, etc. and actively apply.

* “Technical Support, etc.” points to the sharing of equipment with researchers from a wide range of research fields, technical support and the collecting, conservation, and providing of resources (documents, data, experiment samples, specimen, etc.), and support for conservation techniques, etc.

“Advanced Technology Support Platform Program” has scientific value and an advanced nature through the combination of multiple facilities and equipment, and provides shared use of equipment and technical support to researchers in a wide variety of research areas.

“Research Platform Resource Support Program” collects, conserves, and supplies the resources that are the basis of research (documents, data, experiment samples, specimen, etc.) and also conducts support for conservation techniques, etc.

Area	Platform Name	Core Institution	Support Function
Advanced Technology Support Platform Program	Platform of Advanced Bioimaging Support (*)	National Institute for Physiological Sciences National Institute for Basic Biology	Advanced technical support and user training for: · Light microscopy · Electron microscopy · Magnetic resonance imaging · Imaging analysis
	Platform of Advanced Animal Model Support (*)	The Institute of Medical Science The University of Tokyo	Support for constructing animal models, Support for pathological analysis, Support for physiological analysis, and Support for molecular profiling
	Platform for Advanced Genome Science (*)	National Institute of Genetics	Advanced genome analysis (de novo genome sequencing; re-sequencing for genome variation detection; analysis of transcriptome, epigenome and metagenome; ultra-high sensitivity analysis for single cells, single molecules, etc.; big-data analysis and advanced bioinformatics; by using of the latest facilities and technologies)
Area	Platform Name	Core Institution	Support Function
Research Platform Resource Support Program	Platform of Supporting Cohort Study and Biospecimen Analysis (*)	The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo	Support for cohort study using bioresources, Support for maintaining and utilizing human brain resources, and Support using biospecimen

	Supply Platform of Short-lived Radioisotopes for Fundamental Research	Research Center for Nuclear Physics, Osaka University	Supply short-lived radioisotopes produced by accelerators for fundamental research in various scientific fields.
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Also, Committee on Promoting Collaboration in Life Sciences that functions as a general information point and coordinator across the four Platforms marked with an asterisk (*) above is set up. (Core Institution: The Institute of Medical Science, The University of Tokyo)

Each Platform's website can be found in the links on the site below:

URL : https://www.mext.go.jp/a_menu/shinkou/hojyo/mext_01901.html

2. Promotion of the Shared Use of Research Equipment

In “Reform of Competitive Research Funds: Towards a Sustained Output of Research Achievements (Interim Summary)” (June 24, 2015, Competitive Research Fund Reform Review meeting) it was decided that, when the original research objectives were fully achieved, versatile and large equipment should, in principle, be shared.

The government also addresses the need to promote the implementation and common use of research facilities and equipment, to establish a framework for the introduction, renewal, and utilization of organizational research facilities (core facilities), and to formulate and publicize policies for the internal and external sharing of research facilities and equipment in the Comprehensive Package to Strengthen Research Capacity and Support Young Researchers (January 23, 2020, Council for Science, Technology, and Innovation) and the Sixth Science, Technology, and Innovation Basic Plan (Cabinet Decision on March 26, 2021).

Given these circumstances, in order to promote efficient use of research funds and joint use of facilities, starting from fiscal year 2025, JSPS will require joint use with those inside and/or outside the research institution of research facilities and equipment that have been purchased with direct expenses of KAKENHI and that meet conditions stipulated by the spending rules. Please visualize such research facilities and equipment for those inside and/or outside the research institution, by, in particular, registering them on a search system, etc. For details, please refer to the Guidelines toward the Promotion of the Joint Use of Research Facilities and Equipment (March 2022, Study Group on the Formulation of the Guidelines, etc. toward the Joint Use of Research Facilities and Equipment at Universities and Other Institutions) and the KAKENHI spending rules (supplementary conditions, funding conditions, etc.).

- “Management of Research Organizations and the Introduction of a New, Unified System for the Shared Use of Research Equipment” (June 24, 2014, Advanced Research Foundation Division, Science and Technology Council)
URL: https://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/shingi/chousa/shinkou/039/gaiyou/1359306.htm
- “The Sixth Science, Technology, and Innovation Basic Plan” (Cabinet Decision on March 26, 2021)
URL: <https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/kihonkeikaku/6honbun.pdf>
- “Unified Rules for Administrative Procedures, Etc. Pertaining to Competitive Research Funds” (Agreement of the Liaison Meeting of Related Offices and Ministries on Competitive Research Funds, March 5, 2021; revised May 24, 2023)
URL: https://www8.cao.go.jp/cstp/compefund/toitsu_rule_r50524.pdf
- Guidelines toward the Promotion of the Joint Use of Research Facilities and Equipment (March 2022, Study Group on the Formulation of the Guidelines, etc. toward the Joint Use of Research Facilities and Equipment at Universities and Other Institutions)
URL: https://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/shingi/chousa/shotou/163/toushin/mext_00004.html

3. Promotion of Dialogue and Collaboration with Society

According to the “Promotion of the ‘Dialogue on Science and Technology with Citizens’ (A Basic Course of Action)” (Adopted by the Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy and the Executive Members of the Council for Science and Technology Policy on June 19, 2010), it is essential to adopt a stance of returning scientific and technological achievements to citizens, gaining their understanding and support, and working together to promote science and technology, so that we can constantly create

outstanding results of science and technology and further develop science and technology of Japan. Researchers with adopted KAKENHI projects who receive an allotment of public research funds amounting 30 million yen or more per year per case are requested to positively work on the “Dialogue on Science and Technology with Citizens.” Universities and other research institutions are also requested to make organizational efforts in order for researchers who have received public research funds to ensure the proper implementation of the “Dialogue on Science and Technology with Citizens,” for example, by setting up support systems.

For KAKENHI, there is the question “Are you positively trying to publicize and disseminate the research content and research achievements?”, especially in interim and ex-post assessment of Transformative Research Area(A). Therefore, based on the above-mentioned basic policy, researchers should disseminate the achievements of research funded with KAKENHI to society and citizens in an even more positive way.

4. Cooperation with the National Bioscience Database Center

The National Bioscience Database Center (URL: <https://biosciencedbc.jp/>) has been established in the Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST, a national research and development agency), in order to promote the integrated use of databases in the area of life science that have been created by various research institutions and other institutions.

This Center spurs the active participation of related institutions, and based on four pillars, namely (1) the planning of strategies, (2) creation and operation of portal websites, (3) research on and development of core technology for the integration of databases and (4) the promotion of the integration of biotechnology-related databases, it is promoting projects aiming at the integration of databases in the area of life science. In this way, through wide sharing and utilization of the research achievements in the area of life science produced in Japan in the researcher community, the Center aims at invigorating overall research in the area of life science, including research and development connected to basic research and industrial applied research.

JSPS would like to request researchers to cooperate by providing to the Center copies of raw data related to achievements published in research papers and other output in the area of life science, or copies of created open databases.

Moreover, the copies provided will be able to be utilized on a non-exclusive basis as reproductions, alterations, or in other necessary forms. JSPS would like researchers to understand in advance that, in response to the requests of the institutions that received copies, it would also like request researchers to cooperate by providing all the information necessary for utilizing the copies.

Furthermore, the National Bioscience Database Center has developed guidelines for data on humans, in order to promote the sharing and use of data related to research in the area of life science, with due considerations to the protection of personal information.

NBDC human data sharing guidelines

URL: <https://humandbs.dbcls.jp/guidelines/data-sharing-guidelines>

5. Inter-University Bio-Backup Project

The purpose of the Inter-University Bio-Backup Project (IBBP) is to “back up” biological genetic resources, which are indispensable research resources in various research areas, and to avoid damage or loss of biological genetic resources due to unforeseen accidents, disasters, etc. The project newly commenced from 2012.

In the National Institute for Basic Biology of the Inter-University Research Institute Corporation National Institutes of Natural Sciences, which is the core of this project, the Inter-University Bio-Backup Project for Basic Biology (IBBP Center, URL: <https://ibbp.nibb.ac.jp>) has been established as a backup center for biological genetic resources. It is equipped with the newest equipment necessary for the backup of biological genetic resources.

Any researcher who belongs to a university or a research institution may apply for storage. Biological genetic resources that can be stored in the IBBP Center are samples that can be proliferated (amplified) or cryopreserved (for vegetable seeds, the refrigeration or deep-freezing preservation condition needs to be definite), and being not pathogenic is also a condition. Since backup is provided free of charge, researchers should make use of the IBBP Center.

6. National BioResource Project

The National BioResource Project (NBRP) strategically collects and preserves important bioresources that are the basic and foundation of life science research at the core bases of this project and provides them to universities and research institutes, thereby contributing to the development of life science research in

Japan. In the future, in order to contribute to the development of life science research in Japan, it is necessary to continually collect useful bioresources.

For that matter, please deposit (*) available bioresources among bioresources developed by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (limited to the bioresource targeted for NBRP). Please cooperate with the NBRP collecting activities.

It is recommended to utilize the resources already collected in NBRP from the viewpoint such as efficient implementation of research.

(*) Deposit: This is a procedure to approve the use (preservation/provision) in this project without transferring the various rights related to the resource. By specifying specific conditions in the deposit agreement, you can add usage conditions such as restrictions on usage and quotation of articles to users.

List of NBRP core bases representative agencies

URL: <https://nbrp.jp/resource/>

7. Security Export Control Policy (Coping with Technology Leakage Overseas)

In implementing various research activities including research projects funded with KAKENHI, research institutions are asked to take systematic measures to ensure that the research achievements which have potential risks of being diverted to military use are not transferred to WMD developers, terrorist organizations, or people carrying out other dubious activities.

In Japan, export controls (*) are carried out under the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (Act No. 228 of 1949) (hereinafter referred to as “Foreign Exchange Act”). Therefore, in principle, in order to export (provide) cargo and technology regulated by the Foreign Exchange Act, it is necessary to obtain permission of the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry. It is reminded that KAKENHI grantees must observe the Foreign Exchange Act as well as other laws, guidelines and circular notices issued by the government.

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

Please note in particular that not only export of cargo but also provision of technology will be subject to the regulation by the Foreign Exchange Act. When providing a “List rules” technology to non-residents(*) or providing it in a foreign country, prior permission for provision is required. “Provision of technology” 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 case in which technologies subject to regulation by the Foreign Exchange Act are involved when mentoring foreign students and/or joint research activities with overseas groups. Please also bear in mind that the provision of technologies, etc. acquired in KAKENHI-funded projects or the provision of technologies, etc. already in possession with the use of KAKENHI may also be subject to restrictions.

(*)It means types of residents who are strongly influenced by non-residents; more specifically, the specified types stipulated by Paragraph 1 (3), item 11 (i) through (iii) of the ministerial ordinance "Transactions or acts of providing technology that require a permit pursuant to Article 25, Paragraph 1 of the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act and Article 17, Paragraph 2 of the Foreign Exchange Order."

Pursuant to the Foreign Exchange Act, exporting “List Rules” cargo or providing “List Rules” technology to a foreign country requires the development of a security export control system (*). Therefore, JSPS may, by the time of official grant decision, confirm whether the provision of cargo and technology subject to export controls under the Foreign Exchange Act is planned in KAKENHI funded projects and whether a control system has been established if there is an intent to provide them.

In case there is an intent to provide them but no control system has been established, JSPS requires the development of such system by the time of the provision or by the end of the relevant project, whichever is earlier. JSPS may also report the status of confirmation to the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry at its request.

In addition, any violation of the Foreign Exchange Act regulations with regard to technologies, etc. acquired in KAKENHI-funded projects may result in no official grant decision being made or cancellation of grant delivery.

(*) Exporters or persons conducting similar transactions are obliged to observe “compliance standards for exporters and persons conducting similar transactions” as prescribed in Article 55-10, Paragraph 1 of the Foreign Exchange Act. The security export control system as referred here means an internal control system of an organization to prevent illegal export, etc. through proper export of “List Rules” cargo or proper provision of “List Rules” technology to a foreign country, based on the control system prescribed in the “compliance standards for exporters and persons conducting similar transactions.”

Details of the security trade control are published on the websites including the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry website.

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

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

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

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

○Center for Information on Security Trade Controls

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

○”Guidance for the Control of Sensitive Technologies for Security Export for Academic and Research Institutions”

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

8. Strict Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2321

In the face of the nuclear test by Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) in September 2016 and repeated launches of ballistic missiles, the United Nations Security Council adopted the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2321 on November 30, 2016 (ET, New York) deciding to impose additional and stronger sanctions on DPRK. In this regard, MEXT issued a letter of request entitled, “Strict Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2321 (Request)” (28 受文科際第 98 号) to relevant organizations as of February 17, 2017.

“Scientific and technical cooperation” as set forth in Paragraph 11 in the main text of the Resolution not only includes technologies regulated by the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act of Japan, but all cooperative activities except for medical exchanges. Therefore, it is critical that research institutions exercise strict implementation of the Resolution when conducting various research activities including said sponsored research.

The UNSC Resolution 2321 can be found at:

○ MOFA: United Nations Security Council Resolution 2321, Japanese translation (MOFA Notice No.463 (issued on December 9, 2016)

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

9. Improvement of Treatment of Students in the Doctoral Course

“The 6th Science, Technology, and Innovation Basic Plan (Cabinet Decision on March 26, 2021)” addresses the need to enhance financial support for doctoral students in particular, in order to attract outstanding talents from home and abroad, and calls for research institutions to provide greater employment opportunities for doctoral students as research assistants (RAs) and to improve their treatment. To this end, the Basic Plan, for example, sets a numerical target to triple the number of doctoral students to receive subsidy roughly equivalent to their living cost (which is equivalent to about 30% of students enrolling in doctoral courses to receive such subsidy).

Furthermore, the “Guideline on Recruiting and Fostering Postdoctoral Fellows, Etc. (December 3, 2020, Committee on Human Resources, the Council for Science and Technology)” states that doctoral students “are students, but at the same time, also researchers in a certain way, and therefore it is the key

responsibility of universities that foster researchers to provide the environment for research activities and to ensure proper treatment...It is of particular importance to treat them based on appropriate assessment of their contribution, by establishing compensations that meet the nature and content of their jobs and paying hourly wages according to the actual work hours under the proper labor management. When submitting applications to competitive research funds and other grants, universities and institutions must record the expenditures necessary to employ RAs as direct expense, and revise the school rules as necessary to make sure that the RAs are paid proper compensations.”

Based on the above, when employing a doctoral student as RA, etc. for a KAKENHI project, set the hourly wage according to the nature and content of his/her job based on the standard of each research institution and pay the wage according to the actual work hours under the proper labor management.

Furthermore, when employing a doctoral student as RA, etc., be mindful not to overload him/her with excessive work hours and make sure that he/she can maintain a good balance between the work and his/her own research and study hours.

10. Securing University Research Administrators (URAs) and other Management Personnel

“The Sixth Science, Technology, and Innovation Basic Plan” (Cabinet Decision on March 26, 2021) identifies the importance of efforts to improve the security of professional quality and treatment so that the positions of University Research Administrators (URAs) and other management personnel will become attractive. The Comprehensive Package to Strengthen Research Capacity and Support Young Researchers (January 23, 2020, Council for Science, Technology, and Innovation) also addresses the need to establish career paths for management personnel, URAs, engineers, etc. In light of these initiatives, research institutions are encouraged, to the extent possible, to secure certain lengths of fixed-term employment (of about five years or longer) for URAs and other management personnel (who are currently hired or will be hired newly by research institutions) when engaging them in the management of KAKENHI research programs, by using not only KAKENHI, but also funds such as indirect expenses and basic costs under other external funds, and donations, for example.

In addition, please make active efforts to provide support in securing career paths for these management personnel, for example, enrolling them in URA training, etc. Also consider utilizing the indirect expenses for such efforts.

11. Promoting Efforts to Support Gender Equality and Foster Human Resources

The Science, Technology, and Innovation Basic Plan (Cabinet Decision on March 26, 2021), the Basic Plan for Gender Equality (Cabinet Decision on December 25, 2020), and Education and Human Resource Development Policy Package toward the Realization of Society 5.0 (Decision by the Council for Science, Technology and Innovation on June 2, 2022) aim to create research environments that make it easier for both men and women to continue their research activities when life events occur, such as childbirth, childcare, and nursing care, as well as to promote the appointment of excellent female researchers as project leaders, among other measures. Another goal is to increase the proportion of female students in middle and high school who advance to master's and doctoral courses especially in the science and engineering fields through initiatives to communicate the fascination of these areas to female students in middle and high school, their parents, and their teachers, thereby overcoming the current situation with a low percentage of female students going to doctoral courses in natural science and increasing the number of potential bearers of knowledge in Japan.

In addition, if due consideration is not paid to sexual differences in research and development processes that require such consideration, it may cause inappropriate impact at the stage of social implementation. As such, research and technological development that properly give attention to sexual differences, such as those in physique and the structure and functioning of bodies, are needed.

In light of these points, in KAKENHI-funded projects, JSPS will take into account efforts to promote the participation and advancement of female researchers and expand the range of human resources that will play a role in science and technology in the future.

To advance science, it is important to secure an environment that allows diverse researchers to exercise their potentials and advance their activities. In March 2020, JSPS established the “Basic Guidelines for Promoting Gender Equality in JSPS Programs” to promote gender equal participation in areas of science.

As part of this initiative, JSPS opened a new website CHEERS! (URL: <https://cheers.jps.go.jp/>) in an aim to support the diverse careers of all researchers, such as balancing research and life events. JSPS will release useful information on, for example, how to balance research and childcare and actively carry out

various initiatives through CHEERS! to create a network among researchers. Researchers are encouraged to visit the website.

12. “HIRAMEKI★TOKIMEKI SCIENCE –Welcome to a University Research Lab– Science That Inspires and Inspirts”

The “HIRAMEKI★TOKIMEKI SCIENCE” program is designed to offer opportunities to gain a deeper understanding of the meaning of science and its roles in daily life to society, as part of efforts to give back to society and promote KAKENHI-funded research achievements.

Based on their KAKENHI-funded academic studies, researchers themselves communicate the fun and fascination of scientific pursuit directly to the younger generation in an easy-to-understand manner. They thus instill intellectual curiosity and a rich sense of creativity in pupils in their fifth and sixth years of elementary school and students in middle and high school, who will go on to shoulder the future of Japan. As we are looking for such experience-based programs, regardless of areas of research, please take advantage of this opportunity.

URL: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-hirameki/>

13. 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 is stipulated that effort should be made to have the results of these inspections and evaluations verified by parties outside the institution. If your research involves animal experimentation when applying for KAKENHI, 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)

URL: https://www.mext.go.jp/b_menu/hakusho/nc/06060904.htm

(Reference 1)

Procedures on the Handling of Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (Omitted)

(Reference 2)

Procedures on the Handling of JSPS Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI (Multi-year Fund)) (Omitted)

(Reference 3) Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI (Multi-year Fund))

Spending Rules: Funding Conditions (omitted)

V. Inquiries

1. Inquiries about the Application Procedures should be directed to the following divisions through research institution.

(1) For inquiries concerning the Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Research Fellows

Research Aid Division I, Research Program Department, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

Telephone: 03-3263-0976

(2) For inquiries concerning proposal of JSPS International Research Fellow

Overseas Fellowship Division, International Program Department, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

Telephone: 03-3263-3810

* Both (1) and (2) are available From Monday to Friday, 9:30 to 12:00 and 13:00 to 17:00 except National Holidays, the New Year Holidays (from December 29 until January 3), and the Anniversary of the Foundation of JSPS (September 21).

(3) For inquiries concerning the use of the KAKENHI Electronic Application System:

• Call center

Telephone: 0120-556-739 (toll-free)

* Available from 9:30 to 17:30 every day except Saturdays, Sundays, National Holidays and the New Year Holidays (from December 29 until January 3)

(4) For inquiries concerning the use of the Cross-Ministerial Research and Development Management System (e-Rad)

• e-Rad help desk

Telephone: 0570-057-060 (Navi Dial)

* Available from 9:00 to 18:00 except on Saturdays, Sundays, National Holidays and the New Year Holidays (from December 29 until January 3)

* The following phone number is also available. 03-6631-0622

< Important points >

① How to operate e-Rad

Manuals on how to operate e-Rad can be referred or downloaded from the portal site (URL: <https://www.e-rad.go.jp>). Please agree to the terms of service and apply.

② Time period when e-Rad is available

00:00 - 24:00 (in operation 24 hours a day, 365 days a year)

However even during the above-mentioned time period, the operation of e-Rad may be disrupted or suspended, when maintenance and inspection is being carried out. If the operation is scheduled to be disrupted or suspended, this will be announced beforehand on the portal site.

(5) For matters related to the “Self-Assessment Checklist on the Improvement of the System” based on the “Guidelines on the Management and Audit of Public Research Funds at Research Institutions (Implementation Standards)”

Office of Competitive Research Funding Administration, Research Environment Division, Science and Technology Policy Bureau, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)

Telephone: 03-5253-4111 (ext. 3866, 3827)

E-mail: kenkyuhi@mext.go.jp

(6) For matters related to the “Checklist Pertaining to the Current Status” based on the “Guidelines for Responding to Misconduct in Research”

Office for Research Integrity Promotion, Research Environment Division, Science and Technology Policy Bureau, MEXT

Telephone: 03-6734-3874

E-mail: jinken@mext.go.jp

(7) For matters related to use of support by Platform formed by “Foundation of Scientific

Research Support”

Scientific Research Promotion Team, Scientific Research Promotion Division, Research Promotion Bureau, MEXT
Telephone: 03-6734-4090

(8) For matters related to the “National Bioscience Database”

National Bioscience Database Center, Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)
Telephone: 03-5214-8491

(9) For matters related to the “Inter-University Bio-Backup Project”

Executive Office, IBBP Center, Inter-University Research Institute Corporation National Institutes of Natural Sciences
Telephone: 0564-59-5930, 5931

(10) For matters related to the “National BioResource Project”

National BioResource Project (NBRP) Executive Office (established in the Research Organization for Information and Systems, National Institute of Genetics)
Telephone: 055-981-6809

(11) For matters related to the “researchmap”

Service Support Center (in charge of the researchmap), Department of Information Infrastructure, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (JST)
Web inquiry form: <https://researchmap.jp/public/inquiry/>

(12) For matters related to the “Security Export Control Policy”

Security Export Control Administration Division, Trade Control Department, Trade and Economic Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry
Telephone: 03-3501-2800
FAX: 03-3501-0996

(13) For matters related to the Basic Guidelines for Proper Conduct of Animal Experiments at Research Institutions

Life Science Research Team, Life Sciences Division, Research Promotion Bureau, MEXT
Telephone: 03-6734-4366

2. The Application Procedures and the form of “Confirmation of Grant Application Form” can be downloaded from the following website.

URL : https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/20_tokushourei/download.html