

<Major Changes, etc. in the Call for Proposals for Fiscal Year 2024>

(1) Changes to the Schedule for the Call for Proposals

- The schedule for the call for proposals for FY2024 KAKENHI grants, etc. that will be made in FY2023 has been changed as follows. (Refer to II. Call for Proposals 2. Schedule from Application to Grant Delivery)

<FY2024 KAKENHI Grants>

Research Category	Start of Call for Proposals	Deadline for Submission of Applications	Notice of Review Results	Provisional Grant Decision
Specially Promoted Research	<u>April 13, 2023</u>	<u>June 19, 2023</u>	<u>Early January 2024</u>	Early April 2024
Transformative Research Areas (A/B)	<u>April 13, 2023</u>	<u>June 19, 2023</u>	Late February 2024	Early April 2024
Transformative Research Areas (A) (Publicly Offered Research)	<u>July 14, 2023</u>	<u>September 19, 2023</u>	Late February 2024	Early April 2024
Scientific Research (S)	<u>April 13, 2023</u>	<u>June 19, 2023</u>	<u>Mid-February 2024</u>	<u>Early April 2024</u>
Scientific Research (A/B/C), Early-Career Scientists, and Encouragement of Scientists	<u>July 14, 2023</u>	<u>September 19, 2023</u>	Late February 2024	Early April 2024
Challenging Research (Pioneering/Exploratory)	<u>July 14, 2023</u>	<u>September 19, 2023</u>	Late June 2024	Late June 2024
Publication of Scientific Research Results	<u>July 14, 2023</u>	<u>September 19, 2023</u>	Late March 2024	Early April 2024

<FY2023 KAKENHI Grants>

Research Category	Start of Call for Proposals	Deadline for Submission of Applications	Notice of Review Results	Provisional Grant Decision
International Collaborative Research (former Fostering Joint International Research (B))	<u>March 1, 2023</u>	<u>May 10, 2023</u>	<u>Early September 2023</u>	<u>Early September 2023</u>
Fostering Joint International Research (former Fostering Joint International Research (A)), and Home-Returning Researcher Development Research	<u>July 14, 2023</u>	<u>September 19, 2023</u>	<u>Late February 2024</u>	<u>Late February 2024</u>

- The underlined sections in the tables show the changes from the call for proposals made in FY2022. For the schedule for research categories other than those shown above, please check application procedures and other documents for the respective categories.
 - Please carefully note that changes have been made to both the start of call for proposals and the deadline for submission of applications.
 - The timing of the call for proposals for some research categories subject to the restriction on parallel grant application/receipt varies. Applicants should check the “Table of Restriction on Parallel Grant Application/Receipt” carefully. In a case for which the restriction on parallel grant application/receipt applies, the applicant is not eligible to submit a new application for a different research category even if he/she withdraws the research proposal that he/she had already submitted (transmitted) through the electronic application system after the deadline for submitting (transmitting) the Research Proposal Document under the research category of the proposal.
- (2) Digitalization and Colorization of Review Materials
- For some research categories (see the below for the categories subject to the change), the reviewers will view the submitted Research

Proposal Documents (PDF files) in electronic form on the electronic application system to conduct reviews. Accordingly, Research Proposal Documents under the applicable categories will no longer be printed out in monochrome (grayscale) and mailed to the reviewers. Research Proposal Documents using colored figures and text will be used as they appear in the review. (Refer to III. Instructions for Prospective Applicants 3. Preparation of the KAKENHI Application Form (Research Proposal Document), etc. (3) (iv))

[Research Categories Subject to Digitalization and Colorization of Review Materials]

- For FY2024 Specially Promoted Research and Scientific Research (S)
- For FY2023 Research Activity Start-up, International Collaborative Research, Fostering Joint International Research, and Home-Returning Researcher Development Research
- * For the review of other research categories, Research Proposal Documents printed out in monochrome will continue to be used as review materials. Please note, however, that JSPS plans to expand research categories subject to digitalization and colorization based on the review situation.

(3) New “Draw Back” Function for Application Documents Has Been Implemented

- Starting from the current call for proposals, the administrative staff of research institutions can, at any time prior to the deadline for submission (transmission), draw back the Research Proposal Documents (application documents) that they have already submitted (transmitted) to JSPS, and correct the content as necessary and resubmit them. (Refer to IV. Instructions for Administrative Staff of Research Institution 4. Submission and Other Matters of the Research Proposal Document (Preparing the Research Proposal Document))

(4) Handling of Significant Changes to Research Plans for Continued Research Projects

- In the case of a research project that is to be continued in a fiscal year for a new call for proposals (hereinafter referred to as a “continued research project”), if the PI would like to make significant changes in his/her research plan, he/she needs to submit an application document (Research

Proposal Document) that will be reviewed once again. JSPS will discontinue to accept applications for continued research projects beginning with the FY2024 call for proposals, since the flexible implementation of carry-over procedures, the progress in the introduction of a multi-year fund, and other circumstances now allow researchers to change their research plans flexibly, and the number of applications has decreased.

(5) Abolition of Notice of Completion of Research Project and Statement of Reason

- If the PI of a continued research project decides that his/her project proceeded beyond expectation and the initial research goal has already been reached, and the researcher intends to pursue a new research development by transferring to another research category, he/she may opt to apply for a new KAKENHI grant, after submitting a “Notice of Completion of Research Project” and a “Statement of Reason” (hereinafter referred to as “completion report-related documents”). JSPS will discontinue to accept completion report-related documents beginning with the FY2024 call for proposals, since the expansion of the research categories for which applications may be submitted through the “Research proposal submission in the fiscal year previous to the final fiscal year of the research period of an on-going research project,” the advancement of the timeline for proposal solicitations and reviews, and other factors now allow for the timely and appropriate update of continued research projects, and the number of applications has decreased.

(6) Participation of JSPS Fellows (DC) as Co-Investigators

- Starting from FY2023, JSPS Fellows (DC) can participate in research projects under KAKENHI-funded research categories as Co-Investigators. (Refer to III. Instructions for Prospective Applicants 1. Procedures to Be Completed Prior to Application (1) <Important Point 2>)

(7) Changes to the Application Requirements for Grant-in-Aid for Research Activity Start-up

- The application requirements for FY2024 Grant-in-Aid for Research Activity Start-up will be changed. Applicants must fall under either A)

or B) below. (Refer to the FY2024 application procedures for the applicable categories (Call for proposals is scheduled to begin in early March 2024))

A) An individual who obtains eligibility for KAKENHI application on or after September 20, 2023, and has not submitted an application under the call for proposals for the following research categories(*) announced by MEXT and JSPS.

B) An individual who has not submitted an application under the call for proposals for the following research categories(*) announced by MEXT and JSPS because he/she was on maternity leave or childcare leave in FY2023.

(*) FY2024 Grants-in-Aid for Specially Promoted Research, Transformative Research Areas, Scientific Research, Challenging Research, and Early-Career Scientists

(8) Changes to the Structure of the Research Proposal Document

○ Starting from the current call for proposals, the “Status of Application and Acquisition of Research Grants” column will not be shown in the Research Proposal Document PDF file. Instead, the content shown on the electronic application system will be reviewed. Nevertheless, this column will remain part of the Research Proposal Document, and the method of entering the Research Proposal Document (Items to be entered in the Website) will remain unchanged. (Refer to Supplement Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research - KAKENHI- FY2024 Fund for Scientific Research (A/B/C), Challenging Research (Pioneering/Exploratory), and Early-Career Scientists (Forms/Procedures for Preparing and Entering a Research Proposal Document))

(9) Ensuring International Research Activities

○ This document clarifies that from the perspective of encouraging researchers to conduct international research activities, applicants who have made international efforts related to their research plans (such as their records of joint international research and research history in overseas institutions) can describe such efforts in their Research Proposal Documents as necessary. (Refer to III. Instructions for Prospective Applicants 3. Preparation of the KAKENHI Application Form (Research Proposal Document), etc. (1) (Reference))

○ This document clearly states that researchers are urged to make an effort

to disseminate their KAKENHI-funded research achievements aggressively to the international society. (Refer to Introduction and I. Outline of the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research -KAKENHI- 6. Dissemination, etc. of Research Achievements Supported by KAKENHI)

(10) Research Integrity

○ In response to the “Policy for Securement of Research Integrity” (April 27, 2021, Decision of the Integrated Innovation Strategy Promotion Council), etc., JSPS is taking necessary measures to ensure the transparency of research activities.

As an ongoing measure, applicants will be required to provide information to ensure the transparency of research activities in their Research Proposal Documents for the FY2024 call for proposals.

As described in (8), applicants are required to enter their status of application and acquisition of research grants directly on the KAKENHI electronic application system in the FY2024 call for proposals as they were in the previous fiscal year. The status information registered on e-Rad will be linked to the KAKENHI electronic application system in the next fiscal year or later.

(11) Changes in Eligibility for KAKENHI Application for Fostering Joint International Research

○ In order to vigorously promote the internationalization of research activities of young researchers, JSPS has added “Grant-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows” to root research projects for Fostering Joint International Research and expanded opportunities for researchers selected as JSPS Research Fellows to apply for this research category. Accordingly, JSPS has also decided to permit researchers selected as JSPS Research Fellows (DC) to apply for research categories as Principal Investigators, if the eligibility for KAKENHI application for the said research categories is given by their host research institutions.

Summary of Deliberations at the 11th Meeting of the Subdivision on Grants-in-Aid for Research (February 1, 2023)

URL: https://www.mext.go.jp/content/20230308-mxt_gakjokik-000013407_1.pdf