

< Major Changes, etc. in the Call for Proposals for Fiscal Year 2027 >

(1) Schedule for the Call for Proposals

○The main future schedule for the FY2027 call for proposals for the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research -KAKENHI- (for the FY2026 call for proposals for the Grant-in-Aid for Research Activity Start-up and the Fund for the Promotion of Joint International Research) to be made in fiscal year 2026 is tentatively as follows.

Schedule for the FY2027 Call for Proposals for the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research -KAKENHI- (Tentative) (*1)

Research Category*2	Start of Call for Proposals	Deadline for Submission of Applications	Notice of Review Results*3	Provisional Grant Decision*4
Specially Promoted Research	April 10, 2026	June 16, 2026	Early January 2027	Early April 2027
Scientific Research (S)	April 10, 2026	June 16, 2026	Mid-February 2027	Early April 2027
Transformative Research Areas (A/B)	April 10, 2026	June 16, 2026	Mid-February 2027 (Late September 2026*5)	Early April 2027
Transformative Research Areas (A) (Publicly Offered Research)	July 14, 2026	September 17, 2026	Mid-February 2027	Early April 2027
Scientific Research (A/B/C) and Early-Career Scientists	July 14, 2026	September 17, 2026	February 26, 2027	Early April 2027
Challenging Research (Pioneering/Exploratory)	July 14, 2026	September 17, 2026	June 30, 2027 (Late February 2026*5)	June 30, 2027
Encouragement of Scientists	July 14, 2026	September 17, 2026	January 29, 2027	Early April 2027
Publication of Scientific Research Results	July 14, 2026	September 17, 2026	Late March 2027	Early April 2027

Schedule for the FY2026 Call for Proposals for the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research -KAKENHI- (Tentative) (*1)

Research Category*2	Start of Call for Proposals	Deadline for Submission of Applications	Notice of Review Results*3	Provisional Grant Decision*4, 6
Research Activity Start-up	March 1, 2026	May 8, 2026	July 31, 2026	July 31, 2026
International Leading Research	January 9, 2026	March 14, 2026	Late November 2026 (Mid-May 2026*5)	Late November 2026
Fostering Joint International Research	July 14, 2026	September 17, 2026	Late February 2026	Late February 2026
Home-Returning Researcher Development Research	July 14, 2026	September 17, 2026	Late February 2026	Late February 2026

*1 Both schedules are for newly proposed projects.

*2 For the schedule for research categories other than the above, please refer to the respective Application

Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research and other documents.

*3 The adoption or rejection of newly proposed projects will be notified to their Principal Investigators via the KAKENHI electronic application system before or on the day of provisional grant decision.

When you receive a Notice of Review Results indicating “adoption” of your project, you can make advance preparations for the commencement of your research project; however, as before, please conclude necessary contracts, etc. after provisional grant decision. (after formal application for grant delivery with regard to Fostering Joint International Research and Home-Returning Researcher Development Research).

*4 Timing of provisional grant decision may change, depending on the passage of the government budget and other circumstances.

*5 The schedule in parentheses means the timing for issuing Notices of Review Results of “Preliminary Screening.”

*6 For Home-Returning Researcher Development Research, “provisional grant decision with conditions” will also be made.

(2) Relaxation of the Restriction on Parallel Grant Application/Receipt for the Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Exploratory) and Scientific Research (C)

- In order to further expand support for early-career scientists, we will relax the restriction on parallel submission of research proposals and parallel grant receipt for those aged 39 or younger with regard to the Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Exploratory) and Scientific Research (C). We plan to consider the applicable scope of the relaxation of the restriction on parallel grant application/receipt, while taking into account the burden and effectiveness of review in light of the future status of applications and paying attention to career development as researchers and other matters.

(3) Revision to the Review Method for the Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Pioneering)

- We revise the review method for the Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Pioneering) and introduce a “two-stage document review.”

(4) Increased Continuity from the Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Exploratory) to the Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Pioneering) (Confirmation of the “Development Potential from Research Projects Adopted in the Past” and the Introduction of “Research Proposal Submission in the Fiscal Year Previous to the Final Fiscal Year of the Research Period of an On-going Research Project”)

- We plan to make necessary revisions so that in the call for proposals and review under the “Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Pioneering),” we can confirm development potential from research projects adopted in the past under the “Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Exploratory).” We also introduce “research proposal submission in the fiscal year previous to the final fiscal year of the research period of an on-going research project” for research projects adopted under the Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Exploratory). This will enable researchers to make application for the Grant-in-Aid for Challenging Research (Pioneering) with respect to these projects in the fiscal year previous to the final fiscal year of the research period. Accordingly, relevant descriptions and forms are

planned to be added to the Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research, Research Proposal Document, and Rules Concerning the Review and Assessment. For details, please refer to the Application Procedures for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research.