

JSPS International Fellowships for Research in Japan

Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Japan (Standard)

Application through Overseas Nominating Authorities

FY 2026 Application Guidelines

1. PURPOSE

To provide opportunities for excellent postdoctoral researchers from other countries to conduct cooperative research under the guidance of their hosts with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions. This program is intended to help advance the overseas researchers' research activities while advancing science and promoting internationalization in Japan.

2. FIELDS OF RESEARCH

All fields of the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences are included under this program.

3. DURATION OF FELLOWSHIPS

From 12 to 24 months

This fellowship is provided in full month units.

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

Note 2: As a fellow's tenure may begin at any point during the period stated in the Application Guidelines, there are instances when it may end in the following fiscal year.

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

4. STARTING DATE

Fellows must start their Fellowship in Japan between **1 April 2026 – 30 November 2026**.

5. CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY

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

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

Note 1: Those who have previously been awarded and started a fellowship under the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Japan ([Standard (P)] and [Pathway to University positions in Japan (PU)]) are not eligible.

Note 2: Foreigners who have received a doctoral degree from a Japanese university and/or who reside in Japan with a Residence Card are eligible. Neither Japanese citizens nor foreigners with permanent residency in Japan are eligible to apply.

Note 3: Researchers who obtained their Ph.D. within six years minus time taken for maternity and/or parental leave. (Every four weeks of leave is counted as one month, with any remaining weeks also counted as one month. These months are subtracted from the number of years elapsed since the researcher's Ph.D. was received.) In this case, separate submission of the document is required. Please consult with JSPS in advance via the nominating authority.

Note 4: If the diploma or certificate certifying that the candidate has received a doctoral degree is not received by JSPS by the deadline, the fellowship will be cancelled or withdrawn. Details are set out in the Program Guidelines.

Note 5: If it becomes known after being selected that a candidate does not possess application eligibility, their selection may be cancelled or eligibility terminated during the fellowship period. In such cases,

the candidate may be required to reimburse JSPS their already-paid allowances.

6. HOST RESEARCHER ELIGIBILITY

Host researchers are required to satisfy the following two conditions at the time of application, at the time of selection, and during the fellowship period.

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

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

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

If it is known at the time of application that host researchers will retire, due to reaching retirement age or other reason, during a candidate's fellowship tenure, they should not be a host researcher.

7. TERMS OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

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

- (1) Airfare: A round-trip air ticket (economy-class) (based on JSPS's regulations)
- (2) Maintenance allowance of JPY362,000 per month
- (3) Miscellaneous: A settling-in allowance of JPY200,000, overseas travel insurance

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

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

8. APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR PROGRAM

Applications for this program must be submitted to JSPS through an overseas nominating authority. The application process is as follows:

- (1) Contact is made between the candidates who wish to conduct cooperative research in Japan and their prospective hosts.
- (2) Candidates submit an application to a nominating authority.
- (3) The nominating authority conducts a scientific evaluation to select candidates and nominates them to JSPS.
- (4) Approximately three months after the nomination, JSPS sends out a notice of selection decision to the candidates, the host institutions and the nominating authorities.

Note 1: JSPS does not find or introduce host researchers or institutions.

Note 2: Application deadlines and selection procedures differ by each nominating authority.

Note 3: When setting the starting date of fellowships, adequate time should be allowed for application processing: e.g. application screening by the nominating authority (time differing by authorities) and selection decision-making by JSPS (about three months).

Note 4: In addition to receiving applications through overseas nominating authorities, JSPS also accepts applications for candidates from their prospective host researchers in Japan (open recruitment).

Note 5: If a candidate applies for the program in parallel, through an overseas nominating authority and through an open call, once the candidate receives notification of acceptance for the program from

one of the application channels, the other application must be withdrawn immediately.

Note 6: Parallel applications for the same program through multiple overseas nominating authorities and/or with different host researchers in the same fiscal year are not allowed.

9. MATERIALS TO BE SUBMITTED

- (1) FY2026 Application Form for JSPS International Fellowships for Research in Japan, Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan (Standard), for Application through Overseas Nominating Authorities. The application form is to be completed by candidates.
- (2) Letter of acceptance/invitation from the candidate's prospective host researcher in Japan, stating that they accept the candidate at their institution during the period of the fellowship tenure. The letter should be signed by the host themselves. It is preferable that the letter be written on letterhead paper.
- (3) Letter of recommendation signed by the candidate's doctoral supervisor (etc.) (The writer of the letter must be a person other than the candidate's prospective host researcher in Japan). It is preferable that the letter be written on letterhead paper.
- (4) The candidate's Ph.D. degree diploma or Ph.D. degree certificate. If the degree has not yet been awarded at the time of application, a letter is required from the candidate's institution stating **the date* that they will officially be awarded the degree.** The letter should be signed and preferably on letterhead paper. In that case, the candidate should submit to JSPS the Ph.D. degree certificate or the Ph.D. diploma promptly before starting their fellowship. The diploma or certificate should be signed or stamped with an official seal.

Note1: All documents must be in English. When the original document is in another language, please be sure to attach an English translation (which does not need to be an official translation, and may be done by the host or candidate).

Note 2: *Under the JSPS program, the date of degree award is the date that the issuing university awarded the degree. It is not the date that Fellows orally defended their dissertation (viva voce) or completed a doctoral course.

10. NOTIFICATIONS OF SELECTION RESULTS BY JSPS HEAD OFFICE

JSPS will send by email a copy of award letter and accompanying documents to successful applicants. A hard copy (original) of award letter and related documents for successful applicants and host researchers will be sent to host institutions.

11. NOTICE

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

NOTICE

1. False information, etc., in the application form

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

2. Response to acts of research misconduct and funding misuse

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4. Research ethics education coursework

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

(References) Learning materials on avoiding misconduct in research activities

- 1) For the Sound Development of Science—The Attitude of a Conscientious Scientist—by Editing Committee of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science;
<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-kousei/ethics.html>
- 2) e-Learning Course on Research Ethics [eL CoRE] ;
<https://elcore.jsps.go.jp/top.aspx>
- 3) APRIN e-learning program (eAPRIN)
<https://www.aprin.or.jp/en>
- 4) Research ethics courses conducted by institutions based on the "Guidelines for Responding to Misconduct in Research" (Adopted by MEXT, August 26, 2014)

5. Handling of personal information

Personal information contained in application materials will be strictly controlled in accordance with the "Act on the Protection of Personal Information" and JSPS's own regulations for protecting personal information. JSPS uses such information exclusively for the purpose of implementing its programs. (JSPS may use personal data when disseminating information about its operations and programs, and it may entrust personal data to external companies for the purpose of conducting electronic processing and management of the data.) If selected for a fellowship, candidates should note that their name, nationality, title and affiliated organization, research theme, fellowship tenure, host institution, host researcher's name and title, and research reports may be given public access.

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

6. Use of generative AI

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

7. Issues relevant to human right protection and legal compliance

When the proposed research involves issues such as a requirement to obtain the research subject's consent or the cooperation of a third party, or consideration in the handling of personal information, or actions related bioethics and/or biosafety (including guidelines and policies used by the counterpart country in conducting international joint research and by the countries/regions in which the research will be implemented), describe the measures and actions planned for handling such issues.

This applies to research activities that require approval by an internal or external information committee or ethics jury, such as for research involving questionnaire surveys, interviews and/or behavior surveys (including personal histories and images), surveys of domestic or overseas cultural properties, research involving personal information, the handling of donated specimens, invasive properties, human genome analysis, recombinant DNA, and experimentation with animals. In such cases, describe concretely the status of your processing and procedures in the application.

8. Ability to conduct international joint research activities, feasibility

Applicants who are or have carried out international joint research activities should clearly specify those activities if their content is related to the Postdoctoral Fellowship for which they are currently applying. If the counterpart country has travel restrictions, etc., please prepare your application to include specific plans for travel overseas and to Japan based on the best possible assumptions given the situation of travel restrictions at the time of application.

9. Ensuring research integrity against new risks as a consequence of the globalization and openness of research activities

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

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

10. Security trade control (preventing technology leakage outside Japan)

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

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

funding or their scheduled allocation of research funding.

(*1) Export controls

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

Not only export of goods but also provision of technologies can be subject to regulation under the FEFTA. When providing a "List Control" Technologies to nonresidents (including residents in the Specific Categories (*2)) or providing it in a foreign country, prior permission for the provision is required. "Provision of technologies" includes not only providing technical information such as design drawings, specifications, manuals, samples, and prototypes via storage media such as paper, mail, CD, USB memory, but also providing work knowledge and technical assistance at seminars through technical instruction, skill training, etc. Researchers should be aware that there may be cases in which technologies subject to regulation under the FEFTA are involved when mentoring foreign students and/or doing joint research activities with overseas groups. Please also bear in mind that the provision of technologies acquired in the contracted program or the provision of technologies already in possession with the use of the contracted program may also be subject to restrictions.

(*2) The term "Specific Categories" refers to the types of residents that are heavily influenced by nonresidents. It also indicates the specific types of residents who fall under the clauses in 1 (3)Sa ①thru ③ of the "Notification for Transactions or Acts of Transferring Technology Requiring Permission pursuant to Article 25 (1) of the Foreign Exchange and Foreign Trade Act (FEFTA) and Article 17 (2) of the Foreign Exchange Order (FOE)."

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

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

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

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

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

○Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry: "Handbook on Security Export Control"

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

○Center for Information on Security Export Controls

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

○"Guidance for the Control of Sensitive Technologies for Security Export for Academic and Research Institutions 4th Edition"

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

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

URL: https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/law_document/tutatu/t10kaisei/ekimu__tutatu.pdf (Japanese only)

11. Strict enforcement of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2321

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Basic Guidelines for Proper Conduct of Animal Experiments at Research Institutions (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Notification No. 71, 2006)

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

13. Japan Pre-Entry Tuberculosis Screening (JPETS)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

15. Obligations and procedures after being provisionally selected

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

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

16. FAQ

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

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

OBLIGATION OF CANDIDATES, HOST RESEARCHERS AND HOST INSTITUTIONS

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

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

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

Only the following activities 1)-4) are allowed to be carried out as a part of the candidates’ research activities during their tenure. However, candidates must not be hired for conducting these activities.

Before conducting these activities, candidates must obtain approval from their hosts, ensuring that the activities will not hinder the performance of their research.

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

OTHER RELEVANT ISSUES

1. Cooperation in carrying out site surveys and questionnaires

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

2. Promotion of “Open Access” to the research papers supported by JSPS International Fellowships for Research in Japan

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

https://www.jsps.go.jp/data/Open_access.pdf (Japanese only)

(1) Reference 1: What is “Open Access”

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

(2) Reference 2: Different Routes to Open Access

There are three main ways of open access implementation:

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

*1: “Embargo”

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

*2: “Institutional Repository”

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

*3: “Self-archiving”

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

3. Management of Research Data

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

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

data generated as a result of their research activities. Researchers must conduct their research activities in accordance with their prepared DMP for the storage, management, and disclosure of their research data..

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

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

4. Acknowledging research results

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

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

Postdoctoral Fellowships for Research in Japan

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

5. Registration of the Researcher Information in researchmap

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

<https://researchmap.jp/>

6. Registration on JSPS-Net

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

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

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

We look forward to the participants in this fellowship program registering on JSPS-Net. We are sure you will find it both interesting and useful.

<https://www-jsps-net.jsps.go.jp/>

7. Registration on LinkedIn

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

Information about JSPS is also available on LinkedIn. We hope you will follow “JSPS International Academic Collaborations” if you have experience with any of JSPS programs.

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/jsps-international-academic-collaborations>

8. Data Disclosure from NBDC

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

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

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

9. National BioResource Project (NBRP)

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

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

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

**JSPS International Fellowships for Research in Japan
Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Japan (Standard)
Application through Overseas Nominating Authorities**

FY2026 Instructions for the Application Form

About FY2026 Application Form

Candidates are to fill out the FY2026 Application Form in English. The candidate is to fill out and submit the form. Be sure to use the form for the FY2026 program. Note that the candidates may not make any alterations to the format of each field, including enlarging or reducing the frames, creating undesignated new fields, omitting fields or deleting notes, nor may the number of pages be changed. Note that the candidates should fill in all the fields except those in colored columns. The candidates may freely choose the letter fonts when filling out the Application Form. To make it easy for the document reviewers to read, a letter size of 12 points or larger is recommended. The “Signature” on the final page of the form should be candidate’s own signature.

Other important points when filling in the fields on the FY2026 Application Form

F1

Proposed Research Title

Enter your research title concisely in up to 100 letters in English. Each bracket and punctuation mark is counted as one letter. The space between words is counted as one letter (example: ‘research activity’ is counted as 17 letters). Note that research title may not be changed even after the candidate is selected.

F2

1. Full Name

Write in full the same name that appears in your passport. Enter the family name in uppercase letters. For the first and middle names, write each first letter in uppercase letter and use lowercase letters for the rest of the name. Type only in alphabetic letters and do not use letters with marks such as umlauts. If you do not have a family name but has a first name, enter your first name in the family name field and leave the first name field blank.

2. Nationality

If you have dual citizenship, indicate the country in your passport that you will use for entry to Japan.

4. Sex

Select either "Male" or "Female". Information given in this field will be used for our statistics and for the application for the overseas travel insurance.

5. Current Appointment

Enter 'Ph.D. Student' in "Current Position or Status" if you are a student of the doctoral course and have no current affiliation or status. If you have no current affiliation or status, enter "N/A" in "Current Position or Status" and leave the "Institution", "Department" and "Country/Region" field blank.

6. Academic Degree

Select either "Obtained" or "Expected". Enter the anticipated award date (year, month, day) as close as possible if you have not obtained a degree yet. If the date is unknown, enter the first day of the anticipated award month. Note that a person who holds a professional degree, such as a Japanese professional degree or JD/MD issued in the United States, is not eligible to apply for this fellowship. (If you also hold a Ph.D. degree, you are eligible to apply.) Select "Ph.D." or "Equivalent". If you select "Equivalent", enter the degree that is equivalent to a Ph.D. in the adjacent space. The candidate may not start the fellowship if they fails to submit either the photocopy of Ph.D. diploma or degree certificate by the starting date. Note that if the candidate does not start the fellowship by the deadline specified by JSPS, their fellowship will be cancelled. Please refer to the "Postdoctoral fellowships for Research in Japan Program guidelines" for details on degree certificate requirements.

https://www.jps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/guideline_03.html

8. Names of other Fellowship(s)

Put check the box(es) for Fellowship(s) if you are applying in a same fiscal year.

9. Contact Information

Select either '1.Office' or '2.Home'. Make sure to provide your phone number and e-mail address. If you choose "Office" for your mailing address, enter the name of your department and institution in the "Mailing Address" field.

E-mail Address

Enter the E-mail address that can be used continuously before, during and after you stay in Japan.

F3

11. Higher Education

A candidate who is currently enrolled in a higher education institution should also fill in this field giving information about the institution. List all educational background, including undergraduate and master's degrees.

12. Previous Appointments

A candidate who is currently appointed should also fill in the field giving information about their current appointment.

14. Language Ability

Evaluate yourself on each item with a number from 5 to 1 concerning your language skills in

Japanese and English. The larger the number, the higher the evaluation. If you use languages that are necessary for research other than Japanese and English, you can name up to three of them as well.

F5

17. List of Major Publications

Excluding papers that are currently being peer reviewed or that have not yet been accepted for publication, list only papers that have been printed or accepted for publication.

F8

20. Required Conditions for Candidates under this Fellowship

Please confirm that you meet all the written conditions by putting a check in each box; otherwise you are not eligible to apply. Moreover, modifying the conditions is not allowed. If any of the conditions are modified on the application form, the application will be deemed falsified and will not be accepted. Also, if it becomes clear that the candidate does not meet the conditions after they were awarded the fellowship, their fellowship may be cancelled.