

JSPS International Fellowships for Research in Japan
JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Japan (Short-term)
Application through Overseas Nominating Authorities
Application Guidelines for FY 2018

The JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Japan (Short-term) provides opportunities to young and excellent pre-/post-doctoral researchers from North America and Europe to conduct, under the guidance of their hosts, cooperative research with leading research groups in universities and other institutions in Japan. The program aims to help such researchers advance their own research while expanding opportunities for them to come to Japan, thus advancing scientific exchange between Japan and the following participating countries: the US, Canada, France, Germany, Sweden, the UK, Italy, Finland, the other European Union countries (as of 1 April 2017), Switzerland, Norway and Russia.

1. FIELDS OF RESEARCH

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

2. ELIGIBILITY

Each candidate for the fellowship must:

- 1) Be a citizen of a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan (JSPS treats Taiwanese and Palestinian researchers in this manner) and possess Swedish nationality, citizenship or permanent residency. (However, citizens of other countries are eligible if they have completed a master's or PhD course at an institution of higher education in one of the nominating countries and, upon completing the course, have for at least three continuous years conducted high-level research at a university or research institution in Sweden at the time the organization submits their application. Such persons must be from a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan or from Taiwan or Palestine, and must possess an excellent research record.)
- 2) Hold a doctorate obtained from outside Japan when the fellowship goes into effect, which must have been received within six years prior to April 1, 2018 (i.e. awarded on or after April 2, 2012); or be enrolled in a doctoral course and be scheduled to receive a Ph.D. within two years from the starting date of the fellowship.
- 3) Be able to arrange in advance a research plan with his/her host in Japan.

[Notes]

- Those who have previously been awarded a fellowship under the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship in Japan (Standard, Pathway, and Short-term) are not eligible.
- This JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship in Japan (Short-term) is only awarded once per researcher.
- Persons of Japanese nationality are not eligible to apply, nor are those of dual nationality if one is Japanese. Also those who have permanent residency in Japan are not eligible.
- Those who have received a PhD from a university in Japan or who are expected to receive one are not eligible to apply.
- The professional degree, such as a Japanese professional degree or JD/MD in the United States is not considered as equivalent to PhD.
- Those who have resident cards with mailing addresses in Japan during the period of call for application set by JSPS are not eligible.

3. PERIOD

From 1 to 12 months (full months)

4. STARTING DATE

Fellows must start their fellowship in Japan during the period of 1 April 2018– 31 March 2019

5. TERMS OF AWARD

- 1) A round-trip air ticket (based on JSPS regulations)
- 2) A monthly maintenance allowance of 362, 000 yen for fellows with a PhD at the start of tenure;
200,000 yen for fellows without a PhD at the start of tenure
- 3) A settling-in allowance of 200,000 yen (only for fellows with three or more months of tenure)
- 4) Overseas travel insurance coverage

[Notes]

- The amounts of awards indicated above are subject to change.
- The “to Japan” portion of the round-trip air ticket is not provided to fellows already residing in Japan before the start of the fellowship.
- The above-mentioned settling-in allowance is not provided to fellows already residing in Japan before the date the award letter is issued.
- A research-support allowance is available to cover cooperative research-related expenses. Application is made by the host researcher.

6. HOST RESEARCHERS AND HOST INSTITUTIONS IN JAPAN

The host researcher must, in principle, be a researcher who is employed full-time at a university or research institution as 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). However, in some cases, a researcher not employed in a full time position may be eligible. Such persons must be eligible to apply for a KAKENHI grant-in-aid and his/her affiliated institution must judge them able to implement the project and to provide an appropriate research environment (e.g., laboratory, equipment, personnel) to do so.

*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

7. APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR THE PROGRAM

Applications for this program must be submitted to JSPS through an overseas organization.

The application process is as follows:

- 1) The candidate who wishes to conduct cooperative research in Japan contacts the prospective host.
- 2) The candidate submits an application to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (KVA) or the Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research (STINT).
- 3) KVA or STINT conducts an evaluation to select the candidates and submits them to JSPS.
- 4) JSPS decides the final candidates based on the proposals of KVA and STINT.
- 5) JSPS notifies both the candidates and the relevant institutions of the results.

[Notes]

- JSPS does not find or introduce host researchers or institutions.
- When setting the starting date of fellowships, adequate time should be allowed for application processing: e.g., application screening by KVA or STINT and selection by JSPS (It takes approximately four months from submitting an application to receiving results.)

- JSPS will not respond to individual inquiries regarding selection or results.
- In addition to receiving applications through overseas organizations, JSPS also accepts applications from researchers in Japan, who agree to host a candidate (open recruitment). For details on this application channel, please see our website: <http://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-fellow/index.html>

8. MATERIALS TO BE SUBMITTED

- 1) Application form prepared by each candidate (Format FY2018 short-term).
- 2) A letter of invitation from the candidate's prospective host researcher in Japan, stating that he/she accepts the candidate at his/her institution during the period of the fellowship tenure. The letter should be signed by the host himself/herself. It is preferable to create it with letterhead.
- 3) A letter of reference from the candidate's current or previous supervisor (not from his/her prospective host researcher in Japan). The letter should be signed by the recommender himself/herself. It is preferable to create it with letterhead.
- 4) A copy of the candidate's PhD diploma or the original PhD certificate. If the degree has not yet been awarded, a letter is required from the candidate's institution stating the date that he/she will officially receive the degree. In that case, the candidate should submit to JSPS the original of the degree certificate or copy of the diploma when it is received before starting his/her fellowship. The diploma or the certificate should be signed or stamped with an official seal.
- 5) All documents submitted by e-mail must be converted to PDF files.

[Notes]

- All documents must be in English. When the original document is in another language, an English translation must be attached (an official translation is not required; documents may be translated by the host or candidate).
- With regard to section "12. Proposed Research Title" in the application form, the entry should be within 100 letters including spaces and symbols.
- For candidates who are not scheduled to receive a doctoral degree by the time the fellowship starts, one of the following original documents may be submitted in lieu of a document from the university stating the date the PhD will be awarded.
 - Certificate of doctoral course enrolment (showing that the candidate is within two years of completing the doctoral course at the time the fellowship starts)
 - A document stating that the candidate is scheduled to receive a PhD within two years, written and signed by his/her academic advisor. (If the advisor writes a letter of recommendation for the candidate, this may be stated in the letter.)
- If the date the PhD will be awarded is undecided, the latest date on which the degree is expected to be awarded should be entered in the "Expected date degree will be awarded" space on the application form. The space should not be left blank.
- Candidates applying for other fellowship programs in addition to this one should indicate their preference ranking in the application form.
- The candidate's requested period of stay in Japan should match the period the host researcher can accept the candidate.
- Candidates holding multiple nationalities should enter their nationality according to the country that issued the passport they will use when arriving in Japan, or the country that issued their visa.
- Candidates cannot apply through more than one organization, Please choose KVA or STINT to submit the application materials.

9. ADDRESS AND DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION FORMS

(Address)

-KVA (The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences)
 Contact: Peter Brandén (peter.branden@kva.se)

-STINT (The Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education)
Contact: Agneta Granlund (agneta.granlund@STINT.se)

Please use the subject line “Application for 2018 JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship (Short-term)”
when sending email.

(Deadline)

February 28, 2018 (Wed) 17:00 CET

(Inquires regarding the program)

-JSPS Stockholm Office

Contact: Fumie Yamashita (jps-sto@jps-sto.com)

Please use the subject line “Inquiry regarding 2018 JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship (Short-term)”
when sending email.

10. SCREENING POLICY

- (1) Candidates should be outstanding researchers who are expected to contribute to the future of Science.
- (2) The research plan should be of high scientific quality, specific and realistic.
- (3) The proposed collaboration should clearly develop synergies and form strong linkages between Japan and Sweden.

11. OBLIGATION (INCLUDING MEASURES AGAINST MISCONDUCT AND MISUSE OF FUNDS)

The host researchers, fellows and host institution should bear the following nine 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 Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Japan. If either the fellow or host should fail to do so, the fellowship may be withdrawn, allowances (including airfares) stopped, and already-paid allowances reclaimed.

- (1) So as to allow the smooth progress of the fellow's research in Japan, before submitting an application, the host researcher shall fully inform the candidate of conditions at the host institution, including his/her status under the fellowship, and will ascertain the candidate's acknowledgement to accept those conditions.
- (2) The host researcher will, in cooperation with the administration office of the host institution, provide a suitable arrangement for the fellow to pursue his/her joint research. The host will also assist the fellow, when needed, with immigration processing (including applying for a “certificate of eligibility”), securing domicile and other matters related to his/her stay in Japan.
- (3) During fellowship tenures, the host is advised not to commit such acts of discrimination or abuse with regard to his/her fellow, and should be particularly careful that what s/he says or does cannot be interpreted as committing such acts.
- (4) During their tenures, fellows 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, fellows shall stay in Japan continuously during the tenure of their fellowships and concentrate on their research at the host institution. Fellows may, however, suspend their fellowships for the purpose of childbearing or infant nursing. Fellow may not engage in other work, neither paid nor unpaid, during their tenures.
- (6) The host researchers and fellows shall follow the rules established by the host institution and JSPS prohibiting acts of research misconduct, e.g., fabricating or falsifying research results.
- (7) The fellow and host researcher must submit a research report using separately prescribed format.
- (8) The host institution shall inform both the host researcher and the fellow of the rules that it and JSPS have established to prevent research misconduct and misuse of research funds and of the penalties for violations.
- (9) The host shall take first responsibility for the fellow's actions, so must be proactive in preventing any

discrimination, misconduct or misuse on the part of the fellow during his/her tenure. If any such problems should occur, the host would endeavor to resolve them.

12. HANDLING OF PERSONAL INFORMATION

With regard to personal information contained in application materials, it shall be strictly controlled in accordance with the “Law to Protect Personal Information Held by Independent Administrative Institutions” and JSPS’s own regulations for protecting personal information. JSPS will use such information exclusively for implementing its programs. (This may involve the provision of personal information to external companies commissioned to electronically process and manage program-related data.)

If selected for a fellowship, fellows should note that their name, title, affiliated organization and country, research title, host institution, host researcher’s name and title, and research reports may be given public access. Fellows are also asked to participate in surveys aimed at improving JSPS programs.

13. NOTES

- Should JSPS determine any information in an application to be falsified, plagiarized or otherwise flawed, the application will be rejected or, if already awarded, the fellowship withdrawn.
- JSPS does not support any research project related to military affairs.