



JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship (Short-term)

Programme Information

I. The programme

The JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (Short-term) for North American and European Researchers provides opportunities to young and excellent post-doctoral researchers from the two regions to conduct, under the guidance of their hosts, cooperative research with leading research groups in universities and other Japanese institutions. 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, European Union countries (as of 1 April of the respective year), the UK, Switzerland, Norway and Russia.

II. Financial provisions and duration of fellowships

The amounts of the awards indicated below are subject to change.

- 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
- 3) A settling-in allowance of 200,000 yen according to JSPS regulations (only for Fellows with three or more months of tenure)
- 4) Overseas travel insurance

Note:

- For the candidate who has been living in Japan (and has a mailing address) before the fellowship starting date, a settling-in allowance will not be paid and only the airfare for the return flight will be paid.
- A research-support allowance is available to cover cooperative research-related expenses. Application is made by the host researcher.

Additional benefits granted by **the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation** for all research fellows selected by the Foundation for a research fellowship sponsored by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science:

- **reintegration allowance** for attending job interviews or participating in important career-promoting conferences in Germany;
- a **return fellowship** may be granted for a maximum of twelve months immediately following the research stay abroad. It allows fellows to continue cooperation with their hosts in association with a research institution in Germany;
- **alumni sponsorship** following a successful stay abroad, especially financial assistance for participating in conferences and for short-term visits from or to members of the Humboldt Network abroad (or in Germany when living abroad).

PERIOD: From 6 - 12 months (full months). The duration of the fellowship may not be divided into multiple stays.

STARTING DATE: Fellows must start their fellowship in Japan during the period of 1 April – 31 March of the respective budget year.

III. Application requirements

1. HOST RESEARCHERS AND HOST INSTITUTIONS IN JAPAN:

- Candidates must arrange in advance a research outline for their stay in Japan with their host researcher.
- Host researchers must 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 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) (*), be eligible to apply for a KAKENHI grant-in-aid, 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 that they are able to execute their responsibilities for constantly carrying out the program throughout the fellowship period including the provision of a suitable research environment (e.g., laboratory, space, facilities and personnel), the same as the full-time researchers are 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

For a detailed list of host institutions please refer to:

[List of Eligible Host 2025.pdf](#)

- A fellow's host researcher may not be changed during the fellowship tenure. Therefore, if it is known at the time of application that the host researcher will retire, due to reaching retirement age or other reason, during a candidate's fellowship tenure, s/he should not be a host researcher.

2. FIELDS OF RESEARCH:

All fields of research

3. ELIGIBILITY:

Each candidate for the Fellowship must:

- 1) Possess either the nationality, citizenship or must be a permanent resident of the nominating country.
(However, citizens of other countries are eligible if they have been engaged in research continuously for a period of at least three years at a university or research institution in the nominating country. Maternal and/or parental leave may be taken into account. Please consult the Humboldt Foundation for further information. Such persons must be from a country that has diplomatic relations with Japan or from Taiwan or Palestine, have conducted research continuously for three or more years before the date the Humboldt Foundation receives the application, and must possess an excellent research record.)
- 2) Hold a doctorate degree obtained from outside Japan when the Fellowship goes into effect, which must have been received no longer than six years prior to 1 April of the respective budget year (1 April to 31 March). Maternal and/or parental leave may be taken into account. In this case, additional submission documents are required. Please consult the Humboldt Foundation for further information.
- 3) Have arranged in advance a research outline with his/her Japanese host.

Note:

- Those who have previously been awarded and started a fellowship under the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship for Research in Japan (Standard Program (P), Short-Term Program (PE) and the Pathways to University Positions in Japan Program (UP)) are not eligible. Former Fellows of the JSPS Summer Program are eligible to apply.
- Multiple applications for the same program through overseas nominating authorities in the same fiscal year are not allowed.
- This JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship (Short-term) for North American and European Researchers 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.
- Persons who have received a PhD from a Japanese university or who are expected to receive one are not eligible to apply.
- MD (Medical Doctor) holders without a PhD degree are not eligible.
- Those who have resident cards with mailing addresses in Japan at the time the Humboldt Foundation receives the application are not eligible.
- If it becomes known even after being selected that a candidate does not possess application eligibility, the applicants' selection is to be cancelled or eligibility terminated during the fellowship period. In such cases, the candidate is required to reimburse JSPS the already-paid allowances.

The Humboldt Foundation assumes that candidates will abide the [Rules of Good Scientific Practice](#) and the legally binding principles of scientific ethics during the application and sponsorship periods. For further information on this, please refer to section D of the [Guidelines and Information for Feodor Lynen Research Fellowships](#), which also include further details pertaining to the fellowship and to the research stay.