

JSPS BRIDGE Fellowship Program

FY 2026 Application Guidelines

1. PURPOSE

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) provides opportunities for overseas researchers who have conducted research activities under JSPS International Fellowships for Research in Japan or other JSPS programs to re-visit Japan to create, sustain and/or strengthen research collaborations with Japanese colleagues. The objective is to build strong networks among researchers in Japan and other countries through a variety of activities. These include former JSPS fellows visiting their past host institutions in Japan, or coming to Japan to plan or implement joint research projects and seminars, to offer training or lectures for young researchers, or to prepare or attend scientific conferences and research meetings.

Researchers invited to Japan under this fellowship program are called “BRIDGE Fellows.” Based on applications by individual researchers, candidates are recommended to JSPS Head Office by JSPS alumni associations and JSPS overseas offices or the JSPS-designated official in the Japanese Embassy for countries without a JSPS overseas office. Hereinafter a JSPS overseas office or a JSPS-designated official in a Japanese Embassy will be commonly referred to as a “JSPS office,” and the alumni association and JSPS office as “alumni association/JSPS office.”

2. APPLICABLE FIELDS

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

3. BRIDGE FELLOW ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible, a researcher must meet the following requirements.

- (1) Be a researcher who has experienced research in Japan under a JSPS program and who is currently a regular member of one of the officially recognized 21 JSPS alumni associations.
- (2) Be a researcher who is employed as an active researcher working at a university or a research institute.
- (3) Agreement by host researcher to all items of support stipulated in Form B (Agreement by Host Researcher).

*Upon receiving a recommendation from an alumni association/JSPS office, JSPS contacts the proposed host researcher in Japan. If a proposed host says that he/she cannot provide the support stipulated in Form B or cannot host the fellow, JSPS will not be able to accept the recommendation. Therefore, candidates should communicate fully with their proposed hosts before applying.

*Researchers who have already been supported under the BRIDGE Fellowship Program within the last 5 years (FY2021-FY2025) are ineligible for this award.

*Each alumni association/JSPS office has its own screening criteria as provided in “Provision b), Screening Criteria.” Applicants should check it before applying.

4. HOST RESEARCHER ELIGIBILITY

In principle, researchers who are employed full time or classified as such at one of the Japanese research institutions listed below are eligible to host a BRIDGE Fellow.

- (1) Universities and inter-university research institutes

- (2) Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT)-affiliated institutions engaged in research
- (3) Colleges of technology
- (4) Institutions designated by the Minister of MEXT

*Eligible institutions under (1)-(4) are listed at:

<https://www-kokusai.jsps.go.jp/jsps1/kikanList.do> (Posted only in Japanese)

*Definition of “full-time employment” is according to the regulations of the host institution.

*There are cases when researchers not employed in a full-time position may be eligible. Such persons must be eligible to apply for Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI) and their affiliated institution must judge them able to implement the project and must provide an appropriate research environment (e.g., laboratory, equipment, personnel) for it.

5. NUMBER OF FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

Total of 54 for FY2026. Quotas will be announced to alumni associations/JSPS office.

*The number of quotas allocated to alumni associations may change based on the extent of the collaborative relationships they have created, sustained and/or strengthened with Japanese researchers/institutions. The results of each BRIDGE visit are to be recorded in reports prepared by both the Fellow/host researcher and the nominating committee of each alumni association/JSPS office. These reports are used to evaluate the visits along with the collaborative relations created, sustained or strengthened through them.

6. VISIT PERIOD AND DATES

- (1) A period from 14 to 30 consecutive days
- (2) Under this recruitment, revisits are to start during the following period:

July 1, 2026 through March 31, 2027

Please note the following points.

*All offices in Japan are officially closed during the period between December 29, 2026 and January 3, 2027. As researchers may not be able to carry out their activities at Japanese universities/research institutions during this period, it should not be included in your BRIDGE tenure.

7. TERMS OF AWARD

- (1) A round-trip air ticket (based on JSPS regulations)

*JSPS cannot reimburse BRIDGE Fellows for a ticket that they have purchased by themselves.

- (2) Daily maintenance allowance of JPY 13,000
- (3) Research support allowance of up to JPY 100,000
- (4) Overseas travel insurance coverage

*When the applicant would like to use the research support allowance, the host researcher will need to apply for it through his/her host institution. Please see the rules for the research support allowance in the Program Guidelines issued upon your selection and in additional notices to be issued.

8. APPLICATION PROCEDURE FOR THE PROGRAM

Applications are recruited and screened by alumni associations in coordination with their affiliated JSPS offices, which recommend candidates to JSPS Head Office. Applications by researchers are to be submitted to the place and by the deadline specified by each alumni association/JSPS office. To ensure effective screening, researchers should include all required documents with their applications.

- (1) Documents to be submitted to the alumni association/JSPS office

The application and documents submitted by the applicant are screened by the alumni association/JSPS office, which sends them along with the required documents (sub-paragraphs 1) and 2) below) to JSPS Head Office via email. Please use the email address in Section 12 “Contacts.”

All papers used in applications should be A4 size. The format prescribed by JSPS is to be used in writing recommendations. The size and format of the forms should NOT be altered by the applicants.

- 1) Application documents prepared by the applicants (and submitted to the alumni association/JSPS office)
 - (a) Application for JSPS BRIDGE Fellowship (Form A)
 - (b) Agreement by Host Researcher (Form B)

*Applicants should provide the alumni association/JSPS office with any other documents they wish to be submitted.
- 2) Recommendation documents prepared by the applicant's alumni association in coordination with the JSPS office
 - (a) List of Recommendees from BRIDGE Nominating Committee (Form C)
 - (b) Letter of Recommendation from BRIDGE Nominating Committee (Form D)
 - (c) Provisions
 - a) Recruitment Policy
 - b) Screening Criteria
 - c) Rules for Nominating Committee Members
 - d) List of Nominating Committee Members

(2) Recommendation deadline

Alumni associations are, in coordination with JSPS offices, to submit recommendations for BRIDGE Fellow candidates to JSPS Head Office no later than **February 13, 2026**.

*The above deadline is for alumni association/JSPS office to submit its recommendation documents to JSPS Head Office. The time frame for applicants to submit their applications to alumni association/JSPS office should be earlier.

*Applicants should not submit documents directly to JSPS Head Office.

9. SELECTION PROCESS AND NOTIFICATION

- (1) Screening is carried out using criteria devised by the alumni association in coordination with the JSPS office and approved by JSPS Head Office.

Examples of screening criteria

- The visit will contribute to creating, sustaining and/or strengthening scientific network(s) between the applicant's home country and Japan.
- The visit is expected to advance research and to spawn new scientific collaborations.
- Good pre-visit communication is carried out between the applicant and proposed host researcher in establishing a concrete activity plan.
- The plan shows how the visit will contribute to creating, sustaining and/or strengthening the scientific network(s) between the applicant's home country and Japan.
- The plan articulates ways in which the visit will strengthen academic collaboration in the future.
- The applicant and host researcher in Japan had discussed in detail the applicant's proposed visit plan prior to the application being filed. The plan is clearly defined and the host is interested in carrying it out.
- The applicant is actively involved in alumni activities.

(2) Notification of Selection Results by JSPS Head Office

- 1) An award letter from JSPS president and accompanying documents will be sent to the successful candidates by email. Notification date: Early-April
- 2) Unsuccessful candidates are not notified of their selection results.
- 3) JSPS cannot respond to individual requests regarding selection results.

10. ROLES OF ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS

- (1) Widely disseminate fellowship recruitment information to their members.
- (2) Establish a recruitment policy, screening criteria, rules for nominating committee members, and a list of nominating committee members in the form of Provision a) through d), and submit them to JSPS Head Office for prior approval. When amending the approved Provisions, changes to the Recruitment Policy (Provision a)) must be approved by JSPS Head Office prior to issuing a call for applications, and changes to the Screening Criteria (Provision b)) and the rules for Nominating Committee Members (Provision c)) must be approved before starting the screening process. Minor changes such as to the recruitment period or nominating committee members (Provision d)) do not require approval.
- (3) Prepare application guidelines, specifying the deadline and place to submit applications. When doing so, the screening criteria should be included in the application guidelines to ensure fairness.
- (4) Specify the name and address of the person(s) responsible for this fellowship program at alumni association/JSPS office in the application guidelines.
- (5) Verify that applicants have sufficiently communicated with their proposed host researchers in Japan and that all the conditions for hosting the Fellow's visit are met. Recommend candidates selected using the approved screening criteria to JSPS Head Office by the deadline stipulated in Section 8.
- (6) Submit Form D to JSPS Head Office describing the reason for each recommendation.
- (7) Prepare "Report on BRIDGE Fellowship Activities by BRIDGE Nominating Committee" (Form E) as an annual report and submit it to JSPS by **June 19, 2026**.
- (8) For alumni associations in countries/region with a JSPS overseas office, carry out the above functions in coordination with the JSPS overseas office.

11. OTHERS

- (1) A researcher may not be awarded a fellowship under both this program and another JSPS program at the same time.
- (2) A researcher may not be awarded a BRIDGE Fellowship and a fellowship from another funding organization for a purpose of visiting Japan at the same time.
- (3) Applicants are to describe the results they obtained in other JSPS program(s) and their relevance to this BRIDGE fellowship program.
- (4) There is a limit of one application per person under each recruitment. This should be confirmed by the alumni association/JSPS office when an applicant belongs to two or more alumni associations.

12. CONTACTS

Applicants should contact the place designated by their alumni association/JSPS office. They should not submit documents directly to JSPS Head Office. Only documents forwarded to JSPS Head Office by alumni association/JSPS office will be processed.

The alumni association/JSPS office are to submit recommendation documents to:
International Policy Planning Division
International Program Department
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS)
5-3-1 Kojimachi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0083 JAPAN
TEL: +81-(0)3-3263-1869
MAIL: bridge*jps.go.jp

Note: Please replace * with @.

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/file/storage/e-alumni/bridge/procedural/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 researchers' institutions) are therefore to establish educational courses for candidates (BRIDGE 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 (BRIDGE Fellows) 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 "handing of personal information" in line with the "General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and "United Kingdom General Data Protection Regulation".

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/679/oj>

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/eur/2016/679/contents>

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. 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.

8. Security Trade Control (Preventing technology leakage outside Japan)

Much research on cutting-edge technology 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" technology to nonresidents (including residents in 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 by 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)
<https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/englishpage.html>
- Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry: "Security Export Control System in Japan"
<https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/englishpage/securityexportcontrolinJapan5.pdf>
- Center for Information on Security Trade Controls
<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"
https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/law_document/tutatu/t07sonota/t07sonota_jishukanri03_eng.pdf
- 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
https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/anpo/law_document/tutatu/t07sonota/t07sonota_jishukanri03_eng.pdf

9. 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/files/000211408.pdf>

10. 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

11. Approximate Number of Fellowship Awarded and Terms of Award

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

12. Obligations and procedures after being provisionally selected

Candidates (BRIDGE 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 past Program Guidelines posted below.

<https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-alumni/bridge/procedural.html>

13. FAQ

FAQ on this program is 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-alumni/bridge/faq.html>

OBLIGATION OF CANDIDATES, HOST RESEARCHERS AND 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 BRIDGE Fellowship. If either the Fellow or Host researcher should fail to do so, the fellowship may be withdrawn, allowances (including airfares) stopped, and already-paid allowances (including research support allowance) 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 the conditions at the host laboratory, including their status under the fellowship, and ascertain the candidate’s agreement 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 candidate to pursue their joint research and other research activities. The Host researcher will also assist the Candidate, 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 tenures, the 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 the 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*, neither paid nor unpaid, during their tenures.
- (6) The Host researchers and candidates shall follow the rules established by the Host institution and JSPS that prohibit acts of research misconduct, (e.g., fabricating or falsifying research results) and the misuse of research funds.
- (7) The Candidate and host researcher must submit the “Research Report” (Form 7), to JSPS Head Office and the Alumni association/JSPS office before the deadline set by JSPS.
- (8) When presenting or publishing the content or results of research conducted under the fellowship, the JSPS BRIDGE Fellowship should be acknowledged.
- (9) The Host institution shall inform both the Host researcher and 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, use of funds for other purposes) and of the penalties for violations. It shall take action to see that these rules are obeyed.
- (10) The Host institution is to take first 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 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 Host researcher 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 university or research institution for storage and dissemination of the 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 the research institutions, PR for both the research institution and the researcher, guaranteeing the accountability of research and education activities towards society, and the 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.

This work was supported by BRIDGE Fellowship Program of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science 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 researchmap 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're pretty sure you'll find it both interesting and useful.

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

7. Registration of 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 the “JSPS International Academic Collaborations” if you have experienced with any of the JSPS projects.
<https://www.linkedin.com/company/jsp-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	data/databases related to humans among the No. 2 above.	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/>