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), 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 accident and sickness insurance coverage

Note:
The amounts of the Awards indicated above are subject to change. If the Fellow were already residing in Japan before his/her fellowship started or had resident status before/after the date his/her award letter was issued, the above-mentioned air ticket to Japan and settling-in allowance will not be provided.

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)
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 have arranged in advance a research outline for their stay in Japan with their host researcher.
- Host researchers 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, there are cases when 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) for it.

  * 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:

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 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 the nominating country at the time the nominating authority 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 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).
3) Have arranged in advance a research outline with his/her Japanese host.

Note:
- Those who have previously been awarded a fellowship under the JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship Program for Overseas Researchers (excluding Summer Program) are not eligible.
- 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 during the period of call for application set by JSPS are not eligible.

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 Fellows, which also include further details pertaining to the fellowship and to the research stay.