

India-Japan Circulation of Talented Youths in Science Programme FY 2025
Open call Q&A

Revision History

| date | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| 2025/6/27 | Initial version created. |

| 【 1 : Overall Framework of the Program】 | Question | Answer |
|---|---|--|
| Q1－1 | Is there any specification regarding the status of the invitees when accepting them at the university? | JST does not specify the status of invitees upon acceptance. Reception should be conducted with an appropriate status to fulfill the host institution's responsibilities and ensure the seamless execution of the implementation plan. |
| Q1－2 | Regarding the "seal of the head of the institution" on the "Confirmation Letter by the Head of the Japanese Implementing Institution," is it acceptable for someone who has been delegated authority by the institution head for research execution or accounting matters to provide the seal? What should be done if the procedures for the confirmation letter cannot be completed in time? | If contract authority is delegated, it is acceptable for the delegated person, rather than the highest-ranking official, to provide the seal. If approval within the institution is obtained and a document number is assigned, the seal can be omitted. Even if the procedures for the confirmation letter cannot be completed in time, the application can still be submitted, but please aim to submit it by the end of September. Additionally, please inform the secretariat at jst-india@jst.go.jp of the project ID issued during the e-rad application process. |

| 【 2 : Application and Evaluation】 | Question | Answer |
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| Q2－1 | Can the fields of humanities and social sciences be applied for in this recruitment? | Applications can be proposed if they contribute to fields "recognized as important foundations for international collaboration between Japan and India" or those "key to maintaining and advancing scientific and technological capabilities through future Japan-India collaboration," even if they are other than the seven fields listed as eligible. Please consult with stakeholders to determine if your proposal falls under any of these categories. When applying, if selecting "8. Other" in the research fields on application form 1, be sure to choose one from 1-7 in the 2nd field. |
| Q2－2 | I want to apply for the "AI & Information" field, but does my research have to focus solely on AI & Information? | It is not limited to AI & Information as a research target. The classification of fields can be interpreted broadly to include related areas. Feel free to propose in such manner. |
| Q2－3 | missing number | |
| Q2－4 | missing number | |
| Q2－5 | What should be included in the invitee's personal history and achievements entry field (Form 5 history and achievements)?* | Invitees can include awards and recognitions they would like to highlight. For instance, if there is utilization of programs like Women in Science and Engineering-KIRAN (WISE-KIRAN), please mention them. |
| Q2－6 | In career support, how extensive is the support towards conducting internships? | Various adjustments are necessary for invitees coming to Japan for research activities to conduct internships. Specific examples of support include providing private company information for internship acceptance, obtaining permission for activities outside of qualifications from the Immigration Bureau, etc. |
| Q2－7 | Is IIT recommended as a collaborative research partner in this program? | In this program, IIT is not specifically recommended as the Indian research institution. Regardless of whether it is an IIT or not, the selection of projects is based on the evaluation criteria outlined in the application guidelines. This includes aspects such as the content of Japan-India joint research (between individual supervising professors), the invitation of excellent students, and research support provided by the Japanese implementing institution. |
| Q2－8 | Is it necessary to include details about the desire for an internship? | There is no requirement to indicate the desire for an internship when preparing the application documents. After the application deadline, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry plans to provide information to invitees about internship opportunities in private companies and conduct a preliminary survey regarding their interest in internships. However, the content of your responses will not affect the selection process. |
| Q2－9 | When does the internship need to be conducted? | The specific timing and duration of internships at private companies are not mandated by the institution, considering the progress of research activities and the availability of the host company. However, please ensure that the internship does not negatively impact the research activities. |
| Q2－10 | How will the responses to the survey conducted by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, which is scheduled after the application deadline, be used? Will they affect the selection results? | The survey is conducted during the review period to allow the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry to quickly offer internship opportunities after the selection process. The presence, absence, or content of your responses will not impact the evaluation or selection process. Specifically, the information gathered from the survey responses will not be shared with those involved in the selection evaluation. |

| 【 3 : Eligible Students】 | Question | Answer |
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| Q3－1 | Is there any specific residency status or visa certificate of eligibility (COE) requirement from JST for visiting Japan? | There are no specific requirements from JST regarding the residency status or visa certificate of eligibility when visiting Japan. Please obtain the necessary COE or visa based on the duration of stay and academic activities planned in Japan. |

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| Q3-2 | Can students invited by the Sakura Science Program (A/B/C/D) apply for this program for FY2024 for young Indian researchers? | Students invited by either the Sakura Science Program (A/B/C/D) or the 2024 India Young Researchers Invitation Program are eligible to apply. However, students invited by the same program cannot be supported by both at the same time. |
| Q3-3 | Can a fifth-year student in a BS-MS program apply? | If the student is already assigned to a research lab at the Indian institution and is engaged in research activities, they meet the eligibility criteria and can apply. |
| Q3-4 | Is it possible to invite students from an institution with which we are already conducting joint research under another program? | As long as the eligibility requirements are met, it is possible to invite students from an institution with which joint research is being conducted under another program. However, it is not permissible to cover living expenses (such as daily expenses) for the same research activity from multiple support programs. If you are unsure, please inquire individually. Additionally, please check with the other support program, as their constraints may not allow for such arrangements. |

| 【 4 : Overall Expenses】 | Question | Answer |
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| Q4-1 | Is there any restriction on the use of expenses incurred by an invitee for their stay | There are no restrictions from JST on the use of funds provided by the implementing organization for the invitee's stay. Once the funds have been granted, JST does not verify how they are used. |
| Q4-2 | Can all expenditures be remunerated after the project is completed? | Yes, All expenditures be remunerated after the project is completed. |
| Q4-3 | What is meant by the monthly overseas travel insurance expense necessary for the stay as specified in the call for proposals? | Please ensure that invited individuals are enrolled in overseas travel accident insurance to safely and securely focus on their research activities. Although the institution does not specify coverage details, please ensure that it includes emergency evacuation services to prepare for any injuries. |
| Q4-4 | Regarding the monthly support amount for costs associated with the stay, can the standard amounts be exceeded, such as JPY 240,000 for invitees and JPY 413,000/month for Indian implementing institution representatives? | JST will not provide support exceeding the monthly standard amounts set for stay-related expenses. However, universities or implementing institutions can independently decide to provide additional support beyond the standard amounts set by JST |

| 【 5 : e-Rad】 | Question | Answer |
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| Q5-1 | missing number | |
| Q5-2 | missing number | |
| Q5-3 | missing number | |
| Q5-4 | missing number | |
| Q5-5 | There is no support for the applicant themselves, but is effort input required in e-Rad? | Due to system constraints in e-Rad, effort cannot be set to zero; please enter a value of 1 or more. The amount of effort does not affect the evaluation. |
| Q5-6 | When entering e-Rad items, what should be done if asked for information not required in the application, or if unable to enter numbers stated in the application? | While e-Rad tries to follow application items as closely as possible, due to system constraints, there are items where identical content or numbers cannot be entered. These items are treated as correct based on the application. For specific entry methods, please refer to the input manual. |
| Q5-7 | In the application guidelines, section "3.3 Application Procedure (2) Submission of Application Documents" states, "The application should be submitted by the implementing institution," while in e-Rad, the "application unit" is listed as "individual researcher." Which one is correct? | The statement in the application guidelines refers to the fact that the application should be submitted by the implementing institution, which is the Japanese research institution accepting the invitee, rather than the Indian research institution. Additionally, each proposal should be submitted on a per-researcher basis by the main responsible person at the Japanese implementing institution. |

| 【 6 : others】 | Question | Answer |
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| Q5-1 | If the start time of the invitation is delayed due to immigration procedures, can support be provided for gaps in expenses like tuition or rent? | Expenses related to the stay will be provided according to the actual period of stay. Therefore, even if there are changes to the implementation period due to reasons beyond the invitee's control, JST will not provide support for costs incurred during the gap period. |
| Q5-2 | If the start time of the invitation is delayed due to immigration procedures, is it possible to adjust the stay period or extend/shorten the stay duration to ensure research time? | It is possible to change the stay period. For details on extending or shortening the stay duration, please refer to Q5-3. |
| Q5-3 | Is it possible to change the invitation period after adoption or after the conclusion of the implementation agreement? | As long as the content of the implementation plan can be carried out, it is possible to change the period at the discretion of the implementing institution. However, please inform JST. Note that: 1. If the invitation period is extended, no additional funds can be provided. 2. If the invitation period is shortened, the support funds must be returned according to the reduced period. |
| Q5-4 | What should be done if you wish to conduct joint research with an Indian research institution but do not have a corresponding researcher on the other side? | We maintain a list of researchers from certain institutions, including the 23 IITs in India, who are interested in conducting joint research with Japanese researchers. This list can be provided upon request. Please contact the secretariat if needed. |