For applicants

Regarding applications for 2027 JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC)
- Applicants for DC1 and DC2: those who are registered at Waseda University

Those who wish to apply for the fellowship mentioned in the title must submit the application form via the JSPS electronic application submission system by the deadline set by Waseda University, but only after reading carefully 1) the application guidelines for 2027 JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (at the JSPS website), 2) JSPS application preparation guidance and 3) the accompanying Waseda application submission guidance.

1. Submission schedule

Since the university gathers all applications for batch submission, the applicants must strictly observe the university deadline. It is not permissible for applicants to submit directly to JSPS.

Period for ID and password requests: Friday, February 27 to Monday, April 20, 2026.

Period for submission of online application documents[*1]: early April[*2] to Thursday May 7, 2026 23:59 (strict deadline)..

*1 Applications submitted during the above submission period will undergo administrative review (format check). If you do not wish to have your application reviewed for format, please submit it by Wednesday, May 27, 2026.

*2 Starting date of the JSPS online system, which was not announced at the time of this update

Requests for ID and password application and submission of application data

In order to create your 'Application Information and Evaluation Statement' via the JSPS electronic application submission system, an applicant ID and password are required. Please download Waseda University's form, 'Application form for issuance of ID and password' from the WASEDAResearch Portalwebsite, fill in the form, and hand in the document at the relevant office or send it by email as an attachment, as specified in the chart below.

Application type	Submit to
Application for DC1 and DC2	Staff in charge of JSPS Research Fellowship at the department office in the applicant's affiliated graduate school (Please refer to the "ID and password issuance application form for applications for 2027 JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists")

- 'Application form for issuance of ID and password' can be downloaded at WASEDA Research Portal website: https://waseda-research-portal.jp/public-fund/jsps/2/
- Applicants must use the new forms attached to the application guideline. 'Application content file' and 'Separate sheet for research and employment record' can be downloaded at 'Forms such as application' at the JSPS website. ID and password are not required.
  JSPS website: http://www.jsps.go.jp/j-pd/pd_sin.html

2. Submission of application data (Application Information, Application Content File, Evaluation Statement)
   Please read carefully the items in the guidelines on the JSPS website and the separate sheet 'Waseda University application guidelines for JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC)' before creating your data, and send your final version via the JSPS electronic application submission system. When applying through Waseda University, applicants must follow the instructions in this document regarding submission deadlines. Please note that there may be some points where the Waseda guidelines content differs from the content of the JSPS guidelines. If there is any deficiency in the documentation, there may be a case where the submission cannot be screened.
-Guidelines for the JSPS electronic application submission system:
   http://www-shinsei.jsps.go.jp/topyousei/download-yo.html#a2

(Separate sheet)

Waseda University application submission guidance for 2027 JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC)

When preparing your application for the Fellowship, please pay attention to the points specified in the JSPS application guidelines and in each sample form and submit via the JSPS electronic application submission system.

JSPS website:　http://www.jsps.go.jp/j-pd/pd_sin.html

I. Reminders concerning application

  1. Application eligibility

    (1)　Confirmation of organization to make application

      DC: Applicant's affiliated university (=Waseda University)

      Graduate students of Waseda University (currently in the master's program) must apply through Waseda University. (Even if the applicant wishes to enter another university's doctoral program, the application must be submitted through Waseda University.)

      If you have received an offer of admission from a graduate school other than Waseda University, please promptly notify the relevant graduate school office that you have been accepted.

    (2)　Table for application category by current qualifications

      The application categories corresponding to qualifications as of April 1, 2027 (when the fiscal year for the grant starts) are as follows. If an applicant has some special situation such as leave of absence from school, study abroad, or early completion, he/she is required to contact his/her department office to determine the official number of months in that program in order to confirm the application category. (There have been cases where a selection was later canceled because the number of months in the school was insufficient.)

Qualification as of April 1, 2027	Application category	Remarks
First year of the doctoral program (Less than 12 months in the program on the above date)	DC 1	Fellowship period: three years
Second year of the doctoral program/ Third year of the doctoral program (12 months or more but less than 36 months in the program at the time on the above date)	DC2	Fellowship period: two years

<Notes>

1: If an applicant who has been granted the fellowship fails to enter a doctoral program, the fellowship will be cancelled. Those who are in the first year of a master's program and plan to enter a doctoral program by skipping the remainder of the master's program as of April 1, 2026 (at the time of fellowship starts) may apply for DC1 but similarly, if the person fails to enter a doctoral program, the fellowship will be cancelled.

2: Please refer to the FAQ on application eligibility for the 2026 fellowship on the JSPS website: http://www.jsps.go.jp/j-pd/pd_qa.html

(3) For those considering studying abroad

Research Fellows for Young Scientists are not permitted to enroll in overseas universities or graduate schools as students for the purpose of studying abroad, except in cases of joint degrees, double degrees, or similar programs conducted under educational cooperation frameworks such as international joint degree programs.

However, this restriction does not apply if a Research Fellow for Young Scientists temporarily obtains a status (including student status) at an overseas university or research institution in order to carry out their research project.

Even if the Fellow's status at Waseda University changes from "Enrolled" to "Studying Abroad," it is acceptable for the Fellow to temporarily obtain a status (including student status) at an overseas university or research institution (including exchange programs) to carry out their research project. If the Fellow's status at Waseda University changes to "On Leave of Absence," they must decline the Research Fellowship for Young Scientists position, regardless of the reason. Applicants are advised to carefully consider these conditions before submitting their application.

(4) DC application by foreign students

International students are also eligible to apply if they meet the application requirements.

However, please note that if the student is granted some sort of scholarship by the government or by some organization, he or she is required to decline that scholarship when he or she is selected for the JSPS Fellowship. Please also note that the entire process, from application to selection to reporting, must be done in Japanese (only 'Application Content File' can be inputted in English).

(5) Re-application by those who have previously received fellowships

A person who has been selected for DC once is not allowed to apply again.

There are limitations on re-applications.

(6) Application for Grants-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows

Please also prepare an application form for Grants-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows. In addition, please note that the application for the Grants-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows is not made through the "JSPS Electronic Application System" but through the "Online Application System for the Researcher Cultivation Project" used for the application for the Grants-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows.When using the electronic application system, please refer to the "Operation Guide for Online Application System for the Researcher Cultivation Project"

"Grants-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows (KAKENHI)" is research funding provided for the conduct of the research project applied for, and is different from the research grant supplied every month. Therefore, the Grant cannot be used for purposes other than the conduct of the research project. For example, a commuter pass for commuting to the university cannot be paid from the Grant as it is not considered to be directly related to the conduct of the relevant research.

2. Application submission process and deadline

(1) Flow from report creation to submission

POINTS FOR ATTENTION

- Application may only be made via the electronic submission system.
- Confirmation documents (e.g. certificate of temporary leave from school; e.g. resident card) are not required at the time of application. After the informal selection has been made, it will be necessary to submit such documentation.

Outline of the application submission process

1) Applicant submits the request for issuance of ID and password for the system login to the relevant department office.

2) Once the ID and password are issued, the applicant inputs the application information.

- Input the application information (and register the e-mail address of the creator of evaluation statements).

- Request the reviewer (e.g. instructor or host researcher) to create the evaluation statements.

3) The creator of the evaluation statement will be informed of the URL, ID and password for logging in by email through the electronic submission system. The creator logs into the system and creates an evaluation statement within the system. (The applicant cannot input anything there.)

4) Simultaneously with 3) above, the applicant downloads two files (MS Word files) from the JSPS website: 1) "DC/PD applicants: ⑧Educational qualification,(学歴) ⑨Status of doctoral study, (博士の状況/博士学位取得機関の情報) ⑩separate sheet for research and employment background (研究・職歴等別紙)" and 2) "Application Content File," and

completes them. (Those files can be downloaded even before the system has opened for submissions, but uploading of completed files to the system cannot be done until early April.)

5) When the creator of the evaluation statement has completed and submitted the document, the applicant will be notified by email that the statement was submitted.

6) The applicant confirms that all documents are complete and submits the final application via the electric application submission system.

7) Deadline set by Waseda University

- Staff in charge of applications at the applying organization will check all documents to make sure there is no deficiency (e.g. deficiency in department names, format or PDF).

If some deficiency is found, the applicant will be informed by the relevant graduate school office in the case of DC, , and requested to make the necessary correction(s). The applicant should correct and resubmit as soon as possible.

- When all the documentation is completed, the University will send all applications in a batch to JSPS.

(2) Submission deadline

Applicants are requested to submit the final application by the university deadline.

If [Received at organization applied for (申請機関受付中)] is displayed at the submission website, the form has been correctly submitted to the university. Please note that it is not permissible to change or re-submit after submission is complete. Submission after the deadline is not permissible as it is not possible to select [confirming completion/submission (確認完了・提出)] in the electric application submission system.

CAUTION: Unless there is confirmation from the applying organization, the application information will not be received by JSPS. The deadline assigned by JSPS means the date on which the applying organization confirms the application information.

II. Points to note when preparing the application

The table below is a list of the Waseda University department names and codes which are necessary for inputting the application information. Please input your information in line with the table.

Note: About affiliation and department codes at Waseda University

Basically, affiliation of graduate students is 'Graduate School of xxx, Waseda University' and affiliation of academic staff (or researchers) is 'Faculty of xxx, Waseda University.'

It is not necessary to state the name of the course in the graduate school.

Please do not state the name of your undergraduate school or graduate school for affiliated department under researcher information.

If you make a mistake in the department name, correction will be necessary after submission and

recreation of the evaluation statement will also be required at the time of correction, i.e. the host researcher must recreate the evaluation statement. Please take great care when inputting your department name.

*This information is subject to change due to system modifications.

<**Table A**> Departments for applicants (Waseda University)

* for use when filling in ⑨' Status of doctoral study'(博士の状況) and ⑭ ' Name of affiliated graduate school after being selected' (採用後の申請者所属研究科正式名 for DCs)

Name of affiliated graduate school	Department code	Category of program
政治学研究科	００２６	博士課程（３年制）
経済学研究科	００３２	Doctoral program (Three-year)
法学研究科	００２４	
文学研究科	０００１	
教育学研究科	００８６	
商学研究科	００３４	
基幹理工学研究科	２１０１	
創造理工学研究科	２１２０	
先進理工学研究科	２０５０	
情報生産システム研究科	０９５０	
環境・エネルギー研究科	２２７６	
社会科学研究科	００３８	
人間科学研究科	００１９	
スポーツ科学研究科	０７１３	
アジア太平洋研究科	０８５２	
日本語教育研究科	０９７４	
国際コミュニケーション研究科	０７９５	

<**Table B**> Departments for research supervisors and host researchers (Waseda University) for inputting ⑫～⑬ [research supervisors and host researchers] (研究指導者・受入研究者)

Name of department	Department code	official name of the applicant's host department
政治経済学部 　政治学研究科 　経済学研究科	００３１	政治経済学術院
法学部 　法学研究科	００３５	法学学術院

文学部 　文学研究科	００７２	文学学術院
教育学部 　教育学研究科	０７５０	教育・総合科学学術院
商学部 　商学研究科	００６７	商学学術院
基幹理工学部 　基幹理工学研究科 創造理工学部 　創造理工学研究科 先進理工学部 　先進理工学研究科 情報生産システム研究科 環境・エネルギー研究科	００５３	理工学術院
社会科学部 　社会科学研究科	０６５６	社会科学総合学術院
人間科学部 　人間科学研究科	００２０	人間科学学術院
スポーツ科学部 　スポーツ科学研究科	００５０	スポーツ科学学術院
国際教養学部 　アジア太平洋研究科 　日本語教育研究科 　国際コミュニケーション研究科	０１３０	国際学術院
Other institutions	Please contact the Research Support Division, Research Promotion Department.	

III. Support from the Research Promotion Division

(1) Information Session (in Japanese only)

An application information session will be held as follows (advance registration required).

Date and Time:Thursday, March 12, 2026 / 10:30-11:50

Method: Zoom (Zoom details will be sent to your e-mail address.)

Contents (tentative):

　1. Outline of JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists

　2. Lecture by an experienced reviewer

3. Lecture by experienced fellows

　　4. Q&A session

Registration deadline: Wednesday, March 11, 2026, 23:59

How to register the information session

If you wish to participate, please submit the application form below by the registration deadline.

[Application Form]

https://my.waseda.jp/application/noauth/application-detail-noauth?param=sf14Heau4mGgRc1droydTw

Anyone is welcome to attend. Please feel free to enter and leave the session.

(2) Regarding the disclosure of former fellowship recipients' application documents

With their consent, the application documents of former fellowship recipients will be disclosed to those who wish to see them for reference (a password is required, and printing is not permissible). Please email rfys@list.waseda.jp and provide your affiliation, name, application category (DC1, DC2), field and course.

Please note that this does not apply to all fields or application categories. Only Japanese.

(3) Answering questions regarding applications

If you have any question please email rfys@list.waseda.jp providing your affiliation, name, tentative application category (DC1, DC2), field, course, and any question you may have. We will find former fellowship recipients in the same field or a similar field and ask them to answer your questions to the best of their ability.

Please note that this does not apply to all fields or application categories, and there may be cases where former recipients cannot answer queries completely.

ⅣFAQ from the 2026 applications

[Issuing of ID and password]

Q1. My family name changed when I got married. Can I use my maiden name when I apply for the fellowship?

A: To issue an ID and password for application, it is necessary to register with your official registered name, so please submit using your new family name. If you wish to apply with your maiden name, please register with your maiden name when you create an application document, but only after you have received an ID and password.

Q2. Why can't I log in using the ID and password I obtained for the last year's application?

A: If a password is not used for a certain length of time, it will be reset. You need to obtain a new ID and password, so please submit 'Application for ID and password.'

[Inputting to the application system]

Q3. How can I find out how to use the detailed method of inputting to the system?

A: Please review the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists guidelines issued by JSPS.
http://www.jsps.go.jp/j-pd/pd_sin.html

For the operating manual of the system, please see 'Operating Manual for Applicants Using the Online Application System for the Researcher Cultivation Project.' http://www-shinsei.jsps.go.jp/docs/manual1yo.pdf

Q4. Can I complete the items of application information and the title of research project in English?

A: No, they may only be filled in Japanese. Only items in 'Application content file' can be filled in English. The assessment can be written in English.

Q5. Where is the form for requesting assessment?

A: After applicant's information has been inputted, it is possible to input the request form for assessment.

Q6. Why can't I submit my application, even though I have completed all procedures on the electronic application system?

When you have finished inputting, please click the 'Completion/Submission'(完了・提出ボタン) button to record your input. Then be sure to check that the status is shown as 'Receiving process by applying organization.'(申請機関受付中) (There have been cases where an applicant failed to click the 'Completion/Submission' button and the submission was terminated.)

Q7. I cannot upload the application content file. An error message appears.

Probably you used a character code or special font other than JIS first standard or second standard (JIS X0208) (which would mean that the text cannot be converted to PDF). Please check that you have used the correct character code and font.

Ⅴ．Reference 1: Items to be checked before submitting the application form

Here is a list of items on which applicants tend to make mistakes.

Please check that you have complied with all items on the list before submitting. Please note that apply will not be completed unless you click the "Submit" button at the end.

☐ The researcher ID of your host researcher must be stated (after confirming with the researcher).

☐ The contact email address is your personal address, rather than that of your affiliated organization or office.

The contact email address should be usable after January of next year since the selection result will be sent to that address. The email address provided at the time of application cannot be changed until the granting procedure begins.

☐ The form should be printed in good quality black and white.

☐ It is necessary to print the form and confirm that there is no mistake or misalignment before submitting, since changes and additions to the form are not permitted.

☐ It is essential to read all reminders at the top of each item.

- Adherence to the protection of human rights and compliance with laws ⇒ If this is not relevant, please state so.
- Research performance ⇒ Research for the ability to perform, up to this Research is a field which will be described in light of the activities. Please read the instructions on the application form carefully before filling it in.
- Separate sheet for ⑧Educational qualification, ⑨Status of doctoral study, and ⑩ Research and work record ⇒ When using a separate sheet of paper, the content that has been inputted in the application information must be provided on the separate sheet too.

Ⅵ. Procedures after informal decision of selection (annual schedule)

● The procedures regarding selection and research grants will be communicated directly between JSPS and those who are informally selected. Please follow JSPS instructions.

● Procedures regarding Grants-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows and all procedures which need the approval of the university as a host institution, such as qualification change, withdrawal, suspended fellowship, and overseas travel, must be done through the university. Please contact the person in charge of your department office first.

● Taking the research ethics education course:

It is necessary to take the research ethics education course before submitting the documents to initiate procedures for employing researchers who were selected for this fellowship. Such researchers are required to take one of 1) JSPS research ethics e-learning course [eL CoRE]; (Courses for researchers) 2) CITI-Japan Project e-learning program, "Responsible research activities – basics" . In case of the CITI-Japan Project e-learning program, application of credit is permissible if it was not obtained in an organization other than the host research organization.

Timeline

Underlined items are for selection, and items other than those are related to Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research.

Late September

Notification of the first screening result (JSPS → the applicant and the university)

Notification as a form of one of, [Offer of employment in writing only],[Candidate for second offer of employment (after the second round of selection, the candidate will be classified as an offer of employment, substitute, or rejection),] and [Rejected].

The results will be disclosed in the online application system.

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Late December to early January

Notification of the second screening result (JSPS → the applicant and the university)

The results will be disclosed in the online application system.

↓

April

　Decision of selection

↓

　Late April to mid May

　Notification of informal decision of the Grants-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows (JSPS → the university → the applicant)

‑ Regarding the relevant fiscal year's research plan and the use of expenses, "Application for issuance"

must be prepared. This is an important document as it serves as an invoice for research funds. Please prepare it carefully without any mistakes after reading the distributed documents thoroughly.

- Please make sure to observe the deadline for submission to the university, as usually the period between the notification of informal selection decision and the deadline is not very long.

- The Grants-in-Aid for JSPS Fellows will be distributed after the day of the notification of informal decisions..

*1 Overseas travel

For applicants selected for the JSPS Fellowship, there are certain restrictions on overseas travel: Requests for overseas travel must be submitted for overseas trips of 28 days or longer.

- DC: The purpose of travel is limited to 1) commissioning of research guidance (the approval of the affiliated graduate school is required) and 2) field work or collecting materials and literature (a statement of reason by the research supervisor is required).　For 1) above there is no limit to the total traveling period, but for 2) travel must not exceed two thirds of the fellowship period.

    Reference：Guide to compliance and procedures

Ⅶ. Advice for applicants: excerpts from questionnaires completed by former fellowship recipients

● This is a collection of most common comments from questionnaires for former fellowship recipients

    1. Which point did you pay particular attention to when preparing the application documents?

- I was careful about compactly summarizing my research in an easily understandable way. Since some judges are not from the area of expertise, I focused on how I could be sure they understood the outline. I prepared the document as if my research were a commodity and I were marketing it. I made an effort to argue clearly about how my research could be utilized by society in the future, emphasizing points such as why this research is necessary and which part of my research is new.

- The text and layout should be easily readable and accessible. Make sure to get corrections from your supervisor.

    I tried to select a theme with potential for expansion, and described my research plan and method as concretely as possible. On the other hand, in order to show that my plan was feasible I refrained from extending the scope forcefully or laying stress on interdisciplinary research.

-Given that the reviewers' areas of expertise were different from my own and that they would be going through a large amount of material in a day, I tried to make sure that my application was "catchy and understandable" to everyone. I did not write redundant and boring sentences to avoid negative impressions, and I read and rewrote them thoroughly many times to ensure consistent ethical development. Although I may exaggerate a bit, my main goal was to make the content "so interesting that once you start reading it, you will be curious to see what happens next and will keep reading and reading. I think the most important thing is to describe in a simple and clear manner the interest of your

research, the originality and epoch-making nature of your conception, and the ripple effects, so that the judges will properly understand it.

- My supervising professor's application documents for *Kakenhi* served as a useful reference for me. In particular, in order to avoid self-righteousness in explaining the significance of your proposed research, it is important to use a good application for reference and rearrange it for your purposes.
- It is important to write correctly and in line with the notes written at the top of each page. Remembering that there are some judges who are in other fields, it is necessary to summarize your points while avoiding technical terms as much as possible, without using naïve or poor expressions.
- I demonstrated my critical reading skill by describing objective data in the self-description sections, after taking exams on subjects including language.

2. What do you think is the key to being selected?

- Writing in a comprehensible manner throughout the application so that people in other fields can understand. Specifying the character of the research and differentiating it from other studies.
- In my case, I have almost zero academic achievement (only a paper for an on-campus journal). Of course it would feel safer to have as many achievements as possible, but as in my case, I think there is no need to worry about it as far as application and selection. Rather, more important is to make your research plan as concrete and as feasible as possible. Then, you should present in a clear manner the originality of the research which only you are doing, including comparison with previous studies. In addition I heard that if the content of the applicant's research plan is different from the content of the supervisor's letter of reference, the review might be negative. So it is important to talk with your supervisor on a regular basis and ask the supervisor to read your application before submitting.
- For academic performance requirements for DC1, I think presentations at on-campus research meetings are enough, and public academic performance is not essential, but I wrote every achievement of mine in the achievements section. The important thing here is to have consistency across all achievements. In the case of DC1, I think, value is placed on the future potential rather than past performance so the research plan should be written in a concrete manner. It won't be successful if they think your research plan cannot be extended, or is not feasible.
- It is important to prepare the application using content which concretely explains the significance of the research you will initiate and clearly communicates your motivation towards research.
- Starting collecting information and preparing documents early on. Asking former fellowship recipients to show you their application documents or seeing their advice. Showing the draft to some people at an early stage. Never giving up and trying again and again.
- Showing people why your topic is interesting and convincing them that is feasible.