

AY2026 Kyushu University Inamori Frontier Program Application Guidelines for a Faculty Position

January 2026
Institute for Advanced Study, Kyushu University

Purpose

Kyushu University operates the Inamori Frontier Program for human resource development, which has utilized the platforms for hiring and developing outstanding personnel at the Institute for Advanced Study and the Inamori Frontier Research Center. The purpose of this program is to strategically produce researchers who can be leaders in each research field by hiring outstanding young researchers who seek to engage in creative, ambitious research efforts as associate professors (hereinafter referred to as “Inamori FP Faculty Members”) and providing them with the environments and work conditions needed to devote their efforts to their own research as independent principal investigators (PIs).

Number of Positions to be Offered

Institute for Advanced Study Associate Professor: Maximum of five positions

Employment Period

Five years from the date of hiring in principle

Application Requirements

- (1) Applicant must be a young researcher capable of conducting autonomous research activities as an independent PI (in any research field).
- (2) Applicant must hold a doctorate at the time of starting the position at Kyushu University.

When Position Starts

The starting date will be determined based on the desired date of employment and the results of the acceptance coordination, within the range of January 1, 2027 to April 1, 2027. Please note that even if the starting date is postponed, the activity evaluations mentioned below will still be conducted at the same times as the other associate professors hired.

Research Activities

- (1) Workplace: Affiliation will be with the Institute for Advanced Study, but actual research activities will be conducted at the faculty or institute and corresponding campus desired by each applicant (hereinafter referred to as “Host Faculty”) according to their specialized field.
(Reference link for a list of institutes, laboratories, and other facilities):
<https://www.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/faculty>
(Reference link for campuses): <https://www.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/campus/>
- (2) Securing research time: With a focus on devotion to research activities, this associate professor shall be exempt from participating in educational and entrance examination-related duties as well as on-campus management-related duties (except for duties incidental to research activities). However, if the associate professor desires to engage in such duties, involvement in those duties may be permitted after consulting with the administering faculty or institute.
(However, at least 70% of overall effort must be devoted to research.)

Salary, etc.

- (1) Salary: Decided according to the relevant stipulations in the Kyushu University Rules for Compensation of Faculty Members (Annual Salary).
(Decided within a range from 10,000,000 yen to 12,000,000 yen in basic annual salary according to the university's stipulations based on research background and other such factors. Refer to the Q&A for details.)
- (2) Affiliation: Institute for Advanced Study
- (3) Work hours: Considered to have worked 7 hours 45 minutes under Japan's Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work.
- (4) Days off: Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, Dec 29-Jan 3
- (5) Insurance coverage: Employment insurance, workers' compensation insurance, health insurance, employee pension

Support for Research Activities

Support for research expenses and other costs will be provided to hired Inamori FP Faculty Members as follows.

- (1) Research expenses (per person)
[Experiment-related] 2,000,000 yen/year (support for three years after hiring)
[Non experiment-related] 1,000,000 yen/year (support for three years after hiring)
- (2) Cost of employing research assistants, etc. (per person): 6,000,000 yen x 5 years
Example) 4,000,000 yen for one academic researcher, 2,000,000 yen for one technical staff

Activity Evaluations in the Program

As the activity evaluations of Inamori FP Faculty Members in this program, mid-term evaluations are conducted by the third year of employment and final evaluations are conducted up to one year before the completion of the employment period. These evaluations take into consideration the number of research papers published in top journals, number of times research papers are cited, and status of acquiring competitive research funds, based on the characteristics of each specialized field.

Hiring as an Institute for Advanced Study Professor

After completing the employment period, those recognized as particularly outstanding achievers (up to two) based on the results of the final evaluation may be hired as Institute for Advanced Study professors. However, hiring will not take place if nobody is recognized as appropriate.

The following conditions are to be provided to Institute for Advanced Study professors.

- (1) Employment period: Five years (whether to renew is decided according to performance evaluation.)
- (2) Salary: Decided according to the relevant stipulations in the Kyushu University Rules for Compensation of Faculty Members (Annual Salary).
(Annual salary is 13,000,000 yen or higher, decided according to the university's stipulations based on research background and other such factors)
- (3) Workplace: Research activities shall continue at the Host Faculty.
- (4) Securing research time: With focus on devotion to research activities, this associate professor shall be exempt from participating in educational and entrance examination-related duties as well as on-campus management-related duties (except for duties incidental to research activities). However, if the professor desires to engage in such duties, involvement in those duties will be allowed after consulting with the administering faculty or institute.
(However, at least 70% of overall effort must be devoted to research.)

Screening Process

Document and interview screenings are conducted based on selection criteria stipulated by the Inamori Frontier Program Steering Committee.

	Screening Method	When Results are Announced	Remarks
First screening	Document screening	Early May 2026	For document screening, applicants are classified into categories A, B, and C shown below, and screening is conducted on a per-classification basis. Make sure to select your desired classification for screening on Application Document 1. (Applicant Information Sheet). However, the classification for screening may be changed depending on the desired host faculty or research field. A Humanities; Social Sciences; Arts B Science and Engineering C Medical, Dental, and Pharmacological Studies; Agriculture; Life Sciences
Second screening	Document screening	Late August 202	
Third screening	Interview screening	Mid-November 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day of interview * Planned to be conducted online One day to be specified by the university in September 2026 As soon as the date is decided, it will be notified on the following website. https://ias.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/recruits/ Planned as approximately 15-minute presentations by applicants about their own research achievements, content of their research, and other details Specific instructions for the interview screening will be provided on an individual basis to those who pass the second screening

How to Submit Documents & Submission Deadline

(1) Prior to application, all applicants are required to complete pre-registration via the URL below no later than 5 p.m (JST) on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 (strict deadline).

Required information: Full name, current affiliation and position, and the classification you wish to be screened in the first and second screening (any one of the three classifications listed below from A to C):

- A. Humanities; Social Sciences; Arts
- B. Science and Engineering
- C. Medical, Dental, and Pharmacological Studies; Agriculture; Life Sciences

Pre-Registration URL: <https://forms.office.com/r/SCcReb3XJ2>

The recruitment officer will provide notification of the link for uploading application document files within three days of receiving your response. If at least three days have passed and you still have not received this notification, please inquire to the Contact Point for Questions shown below.

(2) Upload the Excel and PDF files in <1> through <4> below to the specified link.

* Since researchers from many different fields will be involved in screening the applicants, please

produce your application documents in a way that is easy for researchers from other fields to understand.

* <1> through <4> below must be produced in the applicant's desired language, either Japanese or English.

<1> Application Document 1. (Applicant Information Sheet) (in specified format, Excel file)

<2> Application Document 2. (Research Information Sheet) (in any format, PDF file)

* Produce these documents after first referring to the points of note in “(1) Overview of Past Research” through “(5) Status of Acquiring KAKENHI and Competitive Funding.”

<3> Resume (Affix photo. Include academic and career history.) (Any format, PDF file)

<4> Up to five offprints of major papers and books (copies and reprints accepted, PDF files)

* For books, also attach summaries of each (up to 250 words, any format)

(3) Application deadline: 5:00 p.m. on March 11 (Wed), 2026 (Japan time, strictly observed)

* Advance registration ends at 5:00 p.m. on March 4 (Wed), 2026 (Japan time, strictly observed)

Points to Note

(1) Personal information in your application documents is only used for screening and not for anything other than that purpose without the applicant's consent.

(2) We do not answer questions pertaining to the screening process and results.

(3) Send advance questions or inquiries to institutes, laboratories, or other facilities to the Inamori FP Recruitment Officer by email. In the message, please clearly indicate the name of the faculty or institute to receive the advance question or inquiry.

(Reference link for a list of institutes, laboratories, and other facilities):

<https://www.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/faculty>

(4) Hiring shall be annulled if any false information is discovered in the application documents.

Contact Point for Questions

Inamori FP Recruitment team, Academic Research and Industrial Collaboration Management Office of Kyushu University

E-mail: inamorifp@jimu.kyushu-u.ac.jp

For details about the recruitment process, refer to the Q&A. If you need clarification for anything else, please inquire by email to the address above.

Other Relevant Points

(1) Kyushu University conducts faculty screening in accordance with the spirit of the Basic Act for a Gender Equal Society (Act No. 78 of 1999), and gives preference to women in the selection process if the evaluations are equal.

Website of the Office for the Promotion of Gender Equality, Kyushu University:

<https://danjyo.kyushu-u.ac.jp/en/>

(2) Kyushu University screens applicants for faculty positions in accordance with the principles of the Basic Act for Persons with Disabilities (Act No.84 of 1970), Act to Facilitate the Employment of Persons with Disabilities (Act No. 123 of 1960) and Act for Eliminating Discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (Act No. 65 of 2013).

(3) Kyushu University has been implementing a system of employing faculty members with accompanying spouse since July 2017.

(4) Status of measures to prevent passive smoking: All campus premises are entirely non-smoking.

(5) If you have received disciplinary action in the past due to incidents including sexual harassment and sexual violence against students, please be sure to include the details and specific reasons for the disciplinary action in your resume. Providing false information may result in consequences such as revocation of employment or disciplinary action.