

The Guideline for Application for 2023NIG-JOINT
(Joint Research and Research Meeting)
National Institute of Genetics,
Research Organization of Information and Systems

1. The Guidelines for Application

(1) NIG-JOINT

National Institute of Genetics solicits Joint Research to be conducted between researchers from other universities or institutes and NIG faculties using NIG facilities and equipment on the proposed project. There are three types of research project: NIG-JOINT (A), NIG-JOINT (B) and NIG-JOINT (I).

As a general rule, travel expenses are provided to the researchers visiting NIG.

NIG-JOINT projects should be conducted during the period of time from April 1st, 2023 to March 31st, 2024. Applicants may submit applications with the same research subject as a new application up to three consecutive years.

① NIG-JOINT (A)

- Eligible applicants are researchers affiliated with domestic or overseas universities or research institutes. Travel expenses required for the researchers to visit NIG conducting the Joint Research are provided.
- Up to 150,000 JPY can be requested by an applicant.

② NIG-JOINT (B)

- Eligible applicants are researchers affiliated with domestic or overseas universities or research institutes. Travel and research expenses (supplies and other expenses used within NIG, in principle) required for the joint research are provided.
- The joint research should be planned and conducted such that applicant or his/her joint research members, whose names are listed on the application, stay at NIG for more than 7 days in total during the research period.
- Up to 700,000JPY can be requested by an applicant for travel and research expenses.
- Limited numbers of applications are to be accepted compared to (A).
- As an option, you can simultaneously apply for NIG-JOINT (A), in case where (B) application is not approved. If you wish to take this option, please put a circle mark and fill in your budget for (A) (up to 150,000 JPY) in the appropriate spaces in the application.

③ NIG-JOINT (I) —International Joint Research —

- Eligible applicants are researchers affiliated with overseas universities or research institutes. Travel expenses required for the researchers to visit NIG conducting the Joint Research are provided.
- More than 150,000JPY up to 350,000JPY can be requested by an applicant.
- About 5 Projects will be selected.
- As an option, you can simultaneously apply for NIG-JOINT (A), in case where (I) application is not approved. If you wish to take this option, please put a circle mark and fill in your budget for (A) (up to 150,000 JPY) in the appropriate spaces in the application.

(2) Joint Research Meeting

The research meeting is held among small number of researchers from inside and outside of NIG. Since the research meeting must be held at the NIG, the travel expenses to be paid will be for researchers from outside to visit NIG. (The meeting cannot be held outside the NIG). However, if necessary, the research meeting can be held via online meeting system (including hybrid format).

The meeting must be held in the period from April 1st, 2023 to March 31st, 2024.

- Eligible applicants are NIG faculties and researchers affiliated with domestic or overseas universities or research institutes, and travel expenses for attending the meeting will be provided.
- For the research meetings held with online meeting systems, the contract fee for the minimum required unit of the online meeting tool will be provided.
- Up to 350,000JPY can be requested by an applicant.

2. Applicants

The applicants should be, as a general rule, researchers affiliated with universities, inter-university collaborative research institutes and independent administrative organizations in Japan or researchers affiliated with overseas universities or research institutes. Please note that graduate students are not eligible to apply, but they can be a member of joint researchers.

3. Application

The application must be completed via online application system called “Joint Research On-line Integrated System (JROIS)”.

JROIS: <https://jrois2.rois.ac.jp/>

(Instruction of operating application system can be downloaded from the above URL.)

For more details regarding online application system, please refer to the following NIG webpage (NIG-JOINT page).

<https://www.nig.ac.jp/nig/research-infrastructure-collaboration/nig-collaboration-grant>

(1) Before submitting the application, the applicant must consult closely with the prospective NIG representative regarding project subject, title of research meeting, members, budget and other necessary matters. Research outlines of NIG researchers are described at the end of this application guideline.

(2) When applying for this program, please be sure to obtain approval from the head of your organization (or department). Submission of written approval is not required.

(3) Application form must be upload and submit in PDF format to JROIS.

The application form can be downloaded from the link below.

<https://www.nig.ac.jp/nig/research-infrastructure-collaboration/nig-collaboration-grant>

4. Online Application Deadline

Applications must be submitted no later than noon (12 PM JST) on Thursday, December 1st, 2022.

*Your application will not be accepted under any circumstances if you don't submit it by the above deadline.

5. Selection

The outcome of selection and amount of budget allocation are determined after screening by NIG committee and notified to the research representatives via e-mail by the end of March2023. Applications from those who have been adopted as research representatives in the past, regardless of whether it is a new or a continuous project, will be reviewed with an emphasis on the status of the past budget implementation.

Please also note that the allocation amounts may be reduced due to limited budget.

6. Change of the Research Group

(1) If there is a change in research representative's organization or position, the said researcher must change the registered information on the "Edit User" screen of JROIS website. If research representative's affiliation is changed, a written approval (fixed format) from new organization should be submitted. (No official seal or signature is required.)

(2) If there is a change in research representative, addition or removal of joint research members, or change in joint research member's organization or position, please submit an addition/change form (only in Japanese) through the NIG representative immediately.

(3) The NIG representative must submit the cancelation form in the event that the Joint Research and/or Joint Research Meeting is unable to be conducted due to unavoidable circumstances.

7. Expenses Provided

(1) The travel and research expenses are to be provided by NIG based on the rules of Research Organization of Information and Systems (ROIS). Because the expenses are allocated only to NIG, not to other organizations, they should be claimed through NIG representative. Accommodation fee for those who stay at our guest house will be 2,500JPY/night, and for those who stay at a hotel in the city will be 8,000JPY/night. (Outside researchers visiting NIG for attending meeting or conducting research are to stay at our guest house, whenever possible.) Please note that the travel expenses could not be fully provided if other business or private site visits are included in the entire trip.

(2) Research representatives are expected to spend the budget at an earlier stage. If you are not able to spend none of the budget due to unavoidable reason, please submit a statement of reasons (free format) and refund it by the end of December. When it becomes obvious that the expenses are not used anymore, please contact Research Promotion Team at that time.

8. Submission of Research Report

The research representatives are required to fill in the "FOR MEXT Report (at the end of research)" on the Edit Application screen of JROIS by April 30th, 2024 for both "Joint Research" or "Research Meeting", and upload the research report in PDF format from the same screen for submission.

The research report form can be downloaded from the link below.

<https://www.nig.ac.jp/nig/research-infrastructure-collaboration/nig-collaboration-grant>

9. Publication of Research Result

You are requested to acknowledge NIG Joint Research as follows when results based on this research project are published, and send a copy of papers (PDF file is acceptable) to Research Promotion Team.

NIG-JOINT (Reference Number)

*Reference number 【Serial Number + Category (A,B or I) + year】 , will be issued in the Acceptance Notification which will be sent to the successful applicant.

Example: (Successful Applicant : Taro Iden, Reference Number : 1A2023)

“This work was supported by NIG-JOINT (1A2023) to T. Iden.”

10. Others

(1) NIG facilities and common equipment are available to be used for the Joint Research. Please refer to the following URL for the available common equipment.

<https://www.nig.ac.jp/nig/research-infrastructure-collaboration/common-equipment>

(2) When holding Joint Research Meeting, NIG representatives are requested to post the meeting schedule on the NIG website and inform all NIG members by at least two months prior to the date of the meeting.

(3) If gene recombination and/or animal experiments are planned, NIG representatives are requested to submit Experiment-on-Gene Recombination plan and/or Experiment-on-Animals plan application form to Research Promotion Team after acceptance of the application. As for animal experiments, researchers directly handle experimental animals are requested to apply for NIG qualification screening and undergo a training regardless of their affiliation. We strongly hope that all researchers comply with regulations and conduct the research properly.

(4) Researchers who handle Radioisotope at NIG are requested to register as Radiation Worker before starting to handle it.

(5) Outside researchers visiting NIG for attending meeting or conducting research are to stay at our guest house, whenever possible.

However, they can stay at a hotel in the city if the guest house is fully booked.

(6) Ownership of intellectual property rights created in the Joint Research of NIG will be considered based on the regulations of ROIS employee invention.

(7) NIG assures that private information for this application should be used only for screening the proposal. Regarding the accepted proposal, the representative of the research, his/her institute and the research project title will be posted on NIG website and annual reports.

(8) As a general rule, NIG would not prepare the form of “business-trip request” for the Joint Research and Research Meeting to simplify the procedures.

We sincerely ask outside researchers visiting NIG to follow appropriate business trip procedures according to the rules of their affiliated institute.

【Contact】

Department of Administration

Research Promotion Team, General Affairs and Project Section

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Research outline

(Updated: November 1st, 2022)

Department/Center	Laboratory	Faculty	Research outline
Department of Informatics	Gene- Expression Analysis	OKUBO, Kousaku / Professor	“How can we make use of data and information at our finger-tip in making smarter decisions in our own contexts?” Without solving this question, all analytical and descriptive efforts that digitalize the reality end up in vain. Our tentative answer/goal for this is to develop method to enhance “fluidity” and “utility” of medical knowledge among humans and machines.
	Genetic Informatics	KAWAMOTO, Shoko / Associate Professor	We are working on research and development of databases and information retrieval system for the national bio-resource project (NBRP).
	Genome Evolution	KUROKAWA, Ken / Professor HIGASHI, Koichi / Assistant Professor	We are interested in understanding about microbial genome evolution and microbial community dynamics, and we are currently reaching out in the following two major research directions: I. Facilitate the development of an integrated database “MicrobeDB.jp”, II. Microbial community dynamics.
	Genome Diversity	MORI, Hiroshi / Associate Professor	Our main research goal is to understand the relationships between the habitat of organisms and genome diversity. To facilitate the studies using comparative genomics and metagenomics, we are also developing various bioinformatics methodologies.
	Biological Networks	ARITA, Masanori / Professor KOSHIMIZU, Shizuka / Assistant Professor	Network analysis of metabolic pathways based on comprehensive identification and quantification of metabolites (metabolomics); Bioinformatics related to plant secondary metabolism and lipid metabolism
	Genome Informatics	NAKAMURA, Yasukazu / Professor TANIZAWA, Yasuhiro / Assistant Professor	Intelligent information technology for structural and functional annotations of large-scale nucleotide sequences.

Department of Genomics and Evolutionary Biology	DNA Data Analysis	IKEO, Kazuho / Associate Professor	Evolutionary study of genomic structure and gene expression pattern to elucidate the evolutionary mechanism of central nervous system and sensory organs. Evolutionary genomics analysis of various species. Metagenome analysis. Developing databases and computer software for biological research.
	Plant Genetics	SATO, Yutaka / Professor NOSAKA (TAKAHASHI), Misuzu / Assistant Professor	The goal of our research is to understand molecular mechanisms governing early processes of plant development using a series of rice embryogenesis defective mutants. Currently we are focusing on the mechanism of regulating the cell division pattern and plasticity in cellular differentiation in rice embryo.
	Evolutionary Genetics	AKASHI, Hiroshi / Professor	We infer mechanisms of genome evolution using population genetic and comparative genomic approaches. Current interests include global forces such as biosynthetic constraints that underlie weak selection.
	Ecological Genetics	KITANO, Jun / Professor YAMASAKI, Yo / Assistant Professor	We use threespine stickleback fishes to investigate the genetic and molecular mechanisms underlying adaptation and speciation.
	Comparative Genomics	TOYODA, Atsushi / Project Professor	We have been conducting advanced genomics research on the plasticity of genome structure and functions using most advanced genome technology such as New-Generation Sequencers.
	Molecular Life History	KURAKU, Shigehiro / Professor KAWAGUCHI, Akane / Assistant Professor	We focus on vertebrates and bridge molecular-level laboratory approaches and genome informatics, in order to document genome evolution and elucidate its mechanism.
Department of Gene Function and Phenomics	Symbiosis and Cell Evolution	MIYAGISHIMA, Shin-ya / Professor FUJIWARA, Takayuki / Assistant Professor	In order to understand endosymbiotic evolution of eukaryotes, we are studying coordinating mechanisms of eukaryotic cell and organelle/endosymbiont proliferation using algae, plants, and protists.
	Model Fish Genetics	SAKAI, Noriyoshi / Associate Professor	We establish reliable protocols for genetically modification of zebrafish using sperm, and analyze the molecular mechanisms of spermatogenesis and early development in zebrafish.

	Plant Cytogenetics	NONOMURA, Ken-ichi / Associate Professor TSUDA, Katsutoshi / Assistant Professor	We aim to elucidate the regulatory system of plant germ-cell development and chromosome kinetics, mainly using seed-sterile rice mutants.
	Mammalian Neural Circuits	IWASATO, Takuji / Professor NAKAGAWA, Naoki / Assistant Professor	We are studying molecular and cellular mechanisms of neuronal circuit development in the mammals, using mouse genetics and other related methods.
	Multiscale Sensory Structure	YONEHARA, Keisuke / Professor	We use mice and marmosets to understand the structure, function, development, disease, and environmental adaptation of visual neural circuits at multi-levels, including genes, neural circuit physiology, and behavior.
	Multicellular Organization	SAWA, Hitoshi / Professor NEGISHI, Takefumi / Assistant Professor	We are studying the mechanisms that produce a variety of cell types through asymmetric cell divisions using the nematode <i>C.elegans</i> .
	Brain Function	HIRATA, Tatsumi / Professor KAWASAKI, Takahiko / Assistant Professor ZHU, Yan / Assistant Professor	Development of the vertebrate nervous system with special focus on neuronal network formation.
	Molecular and Developmental Biology	KAWAKAMI, Koichi / Professor	Genetic studies on development, morphogenesis and behaviors by using a model vertebrate zebrafish.
	Microbial Physiology	NIKI, Hironori / Professor	We investigate higher order structure of chromosomes and their dynamics in yeast and bacteria through genetic and cell biological analysis.
	Mouse Genomics Resource	KOIDE, Tsuyoshi / Associate Professor	For understanding genetic basis of behavioral diversity, behavioral and genetic analyses are applied on a variety of mouse resources including wild-derived strains. We are developing genome editing methods in mice for analyzing function of genes.
Department of Chromosome Science	Genome Dynamics	MAESHIMA, Kazuhiro / Professor IDE, Satoru / Assistant Professor HIBINO, Kayo / Assistant Professor	Our research interest lies in determining how a long string of genomic DNA is three-dimensionally organized in living cells, and how the organized genome functions during cellular proliferation, differentiation, and development. We are using a novel combination of molecular cell biology and biophysics to elucidate 3D-organization and dynamics of human genome chromatin.

	Cell Architecture	KIMURA, Akatsuki / Professor TORISAWA, Takayuki / Assistant Professor	To understand the three-dimensional architecture of the cell and its dynamics, quantitative imaging and modeling approaches are employed. Specific targets of the research are size and shape of organelles, the mechanics of cytokinesis, and cytoplasmic streaming in the <i>C. elegans</i> embryo.
	Chromosome Biochemistry	MURAYAMA, Yasuto / Associate Professor	We investigate molecular mechanism underling regulation of chromosome organization and dynamics by recapitulating their biochemical reactions using purified proteins. We now especially focus on SMC complexes.
	Physics and Cell Biology	SHIMAMOTO, Yuta / Associate Professor SAITO, Kei / Assistant Professor	Our laboratory uses a combination of biophysics, biochemistry, cell biology, and materials science to study how the mitotic spindle properly assembles and segregates chromosomes in cell division.
	Molecular Cell Engineering	KANEMAKI, Masato / Professor	To understand DNA transactions in human cells, we generate conditional cells using the auxin-inducible degron technology for genetic and cytological analyses. We also develop new technologies for construction of mutant human cells.
	Invertebrate Genetics	SAITO, Kuniaki / Professor MIYOSHI, Keita / Assistant Professor	We investigate molecular mechanisms of Drosophila gene expression and repression through biochemical and genetic techniques. Especially, we are focusing on the small RNA pathways and chromatin regulation during germ cell development.
Center for Frontier Research	Systems Neuroscience	KUBO, Fumi / Associate Professor	We study how visual information generates goal-directed behavior. We aim to understand the neural circuit mechanisms underlying this process using a combination of genetic, optic and behavioral approaches in zebrafish.
Radioisotope Unit		ANDACHI, Yoshiki / Assistant Professor	We study microRNA-mediated post-transcriptional regulation in <i>C. elegans</i> using our original methods for the detection of microRNAs and target genes.