

FY2026
Application Guidelines for Joint Usage/Research Center Program
for Transdisciplinary Collaboration on Viral Research, Stem Cell Science and System
Biology

at
Institute for Life and Medical Sciences, Kyoto University (LiMe)

Institute for Life and Medical Sciences (LiMe) continues the philosophy of the two founding institutes, the Institute for Virus Research (IVR) and the Institute for Frontier Medical Sciences (IFMS). It promotes research to create new scientific fields and advance medical and life sciences based on its achievements. Joint Usage/Research Center Program for Transdisciplinary Collaboration on Viral Research, Stem Cell Science and System Biology, an integrated center established in FY2022, will provide domestic and international researchers with unique facilities and equipment, as well as the knowledge, technology, and scientific resources in three divisions of LiMe, Virus Research, Regeneration Science and Engineering, and Biosystems Science. This program aims to promote cutting-edge, interdisciplinary research and human resource development through collaborative projects, particularly in the fusion of virology and regenerative medicine. This year we call for proposals for joint research projects as follows.

1. Target Research Areas

We look for proposals of research projects in the following three research areas as collaborations with faculty members belonging to any of the three Departments or the Research Centers in the institute. In Biosystems Integration Science Research, we encourage proposals for innovative, interdisciplinary research projects.

1. Viral Research
2. Stem Cell Science Research
3. Biosystems Integration Science Research

We are promoting international joint research as well as domestic joint research.

Please refer to the following page for our research areas:

<https://www.infront.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/laboratory>

2. Eligible Applicants

A researcher who belongs to a university or a research institution, or those equivalent as of April 1st, 2026.

Graduate and undergraduate students can be also listed as a researcher other than an applicant. We look forward to active participations of students as well as young scientists. To include undergraduate and graduate students, applicants must submit a Letter of Consent from Supervisor (Form 3). Students are required to enroll in “Gakkensai” or a personal accident insurance for students equivalent to or higher than “Gakkensai” at their home university. Particularly, undergraduate students must conduct research under supervision of a faculty member (assistant professor or above) from their institution or their LiMe host researcher.

3. Duration of Joint Research

The program will support the adopted joint research for one year from April 1st, 2026 to March 31st, 2027.

4. Application procedures

Applicants make an application as follows after consulting in advance about research contents with LiMe faculty members (excluding program-specific faculty members) who will be a co-researcher of this program. Each applicant can apply for one research project as a principal investigator in the same fiscal year.

Required forms for application

- Application of Joint Usage/ Research Center Program (Form 1)
- Letter of Consent from Director (Form 2) (Head's signature required)
- Letter of Consent from Supervisor (Form 3) (Only applicable if applicants include graduate or undergraduate students) (Supervisor's signature required)

Please download forms from our website (<https://www.infront.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/kyoten/>).

Submitting forms

Applicants are required to fill in some information and upload “Form 1”, “Form 2”, and “Form 3” as a scanned PDF on Google form.

(Submit to: Google form URL)

<https://forms.gle/ktZJzgNZ1QFKWjPR8>

5. Deadline

No later than 17:00 (JST) on Tuesday, January 13th, 2026

6. Result announcement

Selection will be conducted by the management committee for Joint Usage/Research Center Program for Institute for Life and Medical Sciences. The result will be notified to individual applicants by the end of March 2026.

7. Research funding

The following expenses could be applied up to 1,000,000 yen yearly for one year (2026 FY) for an adopted research theme.

This fund can be used for expendable supplies, travel expenses between LiMe and applicant's affiliation, and accommodation expenses. Note that expendable supplies should be used in LiMe.

Furthermore, the expenses will be executed through the LiMe host researcher without being allocated to other institutions.

Note that the amount of grant may be decreased from the requested amount.

*Office supplies and general-purpose items such as PCs are not included in the expendable supplies.

8. Accommodations

Contact the General Affairs Section, LiMe for accommodation information.

9. Notes

1) Adopted joint researchers are requested to visit LiMe or collaborate with our faculty via WEB to implement relevant joint research. Applicants can stay at our institution for several weeks to several months.

2) At the time of application, please designate one faculty member (excluding program-specific faculty members) belonging to any of the three Departments or the Research Centers as a co-researcher.

3) The management committee composed of internal and external members select research projects and participants. And, a kickoff meeting on the adopted projects is planned to be held. In this meeting, approved applicants will discuss possibilities of future development of their project with LiMe faculty members.

4) Adopted researchers are required to submit research reports at the end of FY2026. The submitted reports will be placed on our website as well as our annual report. We will also use them for quotation on business reports of LiMe. Therefore, if you think of patent application based on the results of collaborative study, please make a report with a careful attention.

5) Based on law and regulation, studies which need efforts for bioethics and safety measures, including animal experiments, viral infection experiments, use of a human sample, human gene analysis and recombinant DNA experiments will be required in some cases to undergo approval procedure and attendance of education and training by inside or outside committees of our institute.

6) When if research activities involve exports such as accepting/hiring/inviting researchers, providing technology/information, shipping goods overseas, or traveling abroad, it is necessary to follow Security Export Control Regulation of Kyoto University. Additionally, please comply with the security export control procedures and relevant laws and regulations at your affiliation when participating in this joint research.

7) When reporting or publishing the achievement of this joint research without members of LiMe included in as authors, the paper will not be recognized as the result of the project without acknowledgments. The scientist is requested to add a sentence as below.

“This work was supported by the Cooperative Research Program (Joint Usage/ Research Center program) of Institute for Life and Medical Sciences, Kyoto University.”

8) Application of intellectual property rights based on this joint research should be discussed separately with LiMe office.

10. Contact Information

General Affairs Section, Institute for Life and Medical Sciences,
Kyoto University

Postal address: 53 Shogoin Kawahara-cho, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-8507, Japan

e-mail: 330kyoten*mail2.adm.kyoto-u.ac.jp

(Replace the * (asterisk) with @ (at mark) when sending an e-mail.)

TEL : +81-75-751-3802 FAX : +81-75-751-4646