

KAKENHI (Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research) Seminar in English

Tuesday, July 6, 2021

5:00pm – 6:30pm

**** Here are the answers to audience questions that were unanswered during the seminar.**

Q 01.

For S/A type grants and C type grants, can we include external scientists (Japanese and international) as collaborators (co-investigators)?

A 01.

You can include external scientists as Co-I, regardless of whether they are Japanese or international, as long as they are registered on e-Rad and assigned with an e-Rad number. On the other hand, Research Collaborators are not required to possess an e-Rad number. Definitions of each role are specified in the Application Procedures issued by JSPS.

Application Procedures :

https://www.jsps.go.jp/english/e-grants/data/09/2022/r4_7_kobo_e.pdf#page=69

*See pp. 58-61.

Q 02.

I'm an academic in Australia and also hold a joint appointment at HU. Can I submit a proposal and take a lead or should one of my HU collaborators submit it as the lead CI? Also do we need industry partner in Japan?

A 02.

If you are registered on e-Rad and assigned with an e-Rad number, you are eligible for being a PI and take a lead. We suggest that you double-check your e-Rad status with your department before you apply. Having industry partners in Japan is not a mandatory requirement when applying. However, if your research plan includes collaboration with industry, you can mention in your proposal your established partnership with industry to emphasize the feasibility of your research plan.

Q 03.

Is it acceptable as a postdoctoral to be PI? Also, is it allowed to apply in English?

A 03.

Same with **A 02**, if you are registered on e-Rad and assigned with an e-Rad number, you are eligible for being a PI and take a lead. We suggest that you double-check your e-Rad status with your department before you apply. And yes, it IS possible to submit your proposal in English.

Q 04.

Is there a certain way to justify the costs in detail, while the number of characters in the forms is so strictly limited, that details about conferences etc. cannot be entered at all?

A 04.

Try to make the information as specific as possible while being concise. Our KAKENHI checklist also shows a few examples of how to write costs effectively.

KAKENHI checklist :

https://u4u.oeic.hokudai.ac.jp/en/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/R4_E_checklist_tokusui_S_A.pdf

Q 05.

Should we write all references at just one page of the proposal or write them at the end of each page?

A 05.

There is no specific instruction given by JSPS. Here is what our guest speaker suggests.

Dr. Kevin Wakeman :

I supply a small literature cited at the end of each major section. Eg., the background usually takes up two pages, and I will put a small, abbreviated section at the end of that. If the materials and proposed methods has references, I add them at the end of that section there, etc. I think this makes it easier to read and, therefore, the references does not take up a major block of text at the end of the proposal. However, yes, there are many ways to skin a cat.

Q 06.

Is the applicant for early-career scientists does have age limits?

A 06.

You can apply for Early-Career Scientists if you are within 8 years of receiving your PhD, regardless of your age. However, even if you are still within 8 years of receiving your PhD, you are not allowed to go back and apply for Early-Career Scientists again if you have already received any Scientific Research category as a PI in previous years.

What' New with KAKENHI (in Japanese) :

https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/06_jsps_info/g_210709_2/data/siryou2.pdf

*See pp. 16-19.

Q 07.

Are there types of research that would have less chance of being selected under KAKENHI?
Is there opportunity for non-traditional research methods?

A 07.

The latest acceptance rates for major categories are available on JSPS website.

Acceptance Rate (in Japanese) :

https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/27_kdata/data/2020sokuhou.pdf

KAKENHI provides support for all types of research activities, including innovative, non-traditional, and interdisciplinary fields and methods.

About KAKENHI (in Japanese) :

https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/06_jsps_info/g_210709_2/data/siryou1.pdf

KAKENHI FAQ (in Japanese) :

https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/01_seido/05_faq/data/kakenhi_202103faq.pdf

*See p. 3.

Many of these JSPS materials on their website are still only available in Japanese. We will try to translate them and make them available in English. If you have any questions, feel free to contact us anytime using the contact form : <https://u4u.oeic.hokudai.ac.jp/en/contact/>