

2021 Second Recruitment Briefing Q&A

The Interdisciplinary Frontier Fellowship and the Interdisciplinary Frontier Next Generation Researcher Programs

Questions and Answers	Interdisciplinary Frontier Fellowship	Next Generation Researcher
Q1001 Are any slides or other materials/recordings of the briefing available?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A A video of the briefing will be released on the website of the Doctoral Education Consortium.		
Q1002 With the Next Generation Researcher program, do graduate schools and majors have any restrictions on which fields can be applied for, as is the case with the Interdisciplinary Frontier Fellowship?		<input type="radio"/>
A Regarding the Next Generation Researcher program, there are no restrictions on application fields based on the graduate school or major. You apply for the field that is most suitable for your research.		
Q1003 What is the document screening pass rate for the Interdisciplinary Frontier Fellowship?	<input type="radio"/>	
A The number of recipients from the first round of recruitment has already been released. The pass rate varies from field to field due to the varying number of applicants in each field.		
Q1004 Please tell us about any restrictions on working experience or age when applying to the Next Generation Researcher program.		<input type="radio"/>
A There is no age limit. Regarding working experience, there is an income limit. We do not require everyone to submit proof of income at the time of application. There is a section on the application form for self-reporting income status. We are also thinking about checking applicants' income status at a later date.		
Q1005 Among the recipients of the Interdisciplinary Frontier Fellowship, will there be further recruitment to fill any vacancies created by people who have received a JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists?	<input type="radio"/>	
A In this second round of recruitment, we plan to select successful applicants as well as some substitutes. If there are vacancies due to people gaining the Research Fellowships for Young Scientists, we are thinking about filling them with the top substitutes. If there are more recipients of Research Fellowships for Young Scientists than substitutes, we have not yet decided whether to recruit again or select from others who have already applied. We will consider this matter in the future.		
Q1006 Regarding the Next Generation Researcher program, tell us more about QE.		<input type="radio"/>
A QE is dealt with by subcommittees in each field. Interviews will be held with the subcommittee chairs, vice-chairs, and the management team for this next-generation program. The main focus of QE is to ensure that you have a solid plan for interdisciplinary research and joint research overseas. In the language field, you should improve your English language ability by acquiring IELTS 5.5 or equivalent by at least the end of DC1. On doctoral courses, we will check the progress of your research and require an English language level of IELTS 6.0 or equivalent. If you are an international student, you will also be required to master Japanese language. In addition, you will be required to gain a certain number of fellowship points, which were also part of the Interdisciplinary Frontier Fellowship, as shown in Appendix Table 1.		
Q1007 Is it possible to work as a TA or a RA?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A It is possible as long as your job assignment does not interfere with participation in the programs required by each project. However, if you are receiving a fellowship on the WISE Program, you cannot work as a TA or a RA.		
Q1008 Will there be recruitment in spring for next year's researchers? Will there be summer recruitment next year and beyond?		<input type="radio"/>
A Neither the MEXT nor the JST have made any announcements about next academic year and beyond, but we hear that they are planning to continue. We will not know the specific number of researchers until the end of this academic year. For this reason, we have not decided any details yet. There will be hardly any recruitment in summer. We hope to be able to recruit in step with the Interdisciplinary Frontier Fellowship.		

Q1009	Does it mean that someone in a three-year doctoral program accepted as a researcher at D3 will be supported for half a year?		
A	You may apply even with just six months left of the final year of your doctoral course. We would be pleased to help. We understand that it would be quite difficult to conduct integrated research or joint research as required by this project within a six-month period. You should focus on writing your doctoral thesis first. You should have a little time after submitting your doctoral thesis. We would like you to do something related to this project. Specifically, we are thinking about asking you to create videos and other materials based on the doctoral thesis. The videos will enable non-specialists to understand your research. We would also like you to help make a publicity video of your research in English for the overseas audience.		<input type="radio"/>
Q1010	The explanation about recommenders said that they are academic advisors. Is it possible to ask someone other than an academic advisor to recommend an applicant? If it is possible, are there any restrictions on who can be asked to recommend an applicant?		
A	For Researchers, we basically want you to make a plan with the faculty members who are teaching your doctoral course. In the case of Fellowship, if you are a M2 student or an applicant from outside Nagoya University and have not been accepted by a faculty member yet, it is fine to ask someone else instead of your academic advisor. If you cannot find your academic advisor for any reason, please consult with us.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Q1011	Is it possible to apply for the Interdisciplinary Frontier Researcher program even if I am receiving a private scholarship?		
A	If you are receiving a private scholarship, please check to see if you are subject to any restrictions on the private scholarship side. If the private scholarship requires your commitment, you may not be able to apply for our fellowship. Please check with the office of the private scholarship.		<input type="radio"/>
Q1012	When will payments actually start?		
A	The support will be available from October. Support payments for the Interdisciplinary Frontier Researcher program for the three months from October may be paid as one lump sum in December.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Q1013	You mentioned that current fellowship recipients may be selected for a JSPS fellowship, and that the vacant slots this creates will be filled by substitutes who are previously unsuccessful applicants. Will this include unsuccessful applicants from the first round of recruitment? Or will they need to apply in the second round of recruitment too?	<input type="radio"/>	
A	Substitutes will be chosen during the second round of recruitment, so you should apply again and we will make our decision again. Since there are two application fields in the second recruitment, please consult your academic advisor.		
Q1014	With the Interdisciplinary Frontier Fellowship, there is a considerable difference in selection rate between fields. What do you think about this gap between fields?		
A	The number of Interdisciplinary Frontier Fellowships was fixed when the project was adopted by MEXT and cannot be changed. It was decided based on the number of doctoral students in each Fellowship field. I believe there are related fields in Next Generation Researcher program as well. Please consider those when you apply.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Q1015	Will it be possible to receive a scholarship from JASSO?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A	Yes, it will.		