

2023 academic year Shinshu Industry-Academia Co-creation Fellowship Program Application Guidelines

1 Program Overview

The Shinshu Industry-Academia Creative Collaboration Program was established following its selection for inclusion in the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology's University Fellowship Establishment Program for Promoting Innovation in Science and Technology. The fellowship program seeks to certify talented and motivated doctoral program students with the potential to fuel future innovation in science and technology as fellowship recipients and to provide an environment in which they can focus on research by offering a stipend to help cover living expenses and other support. Additionally, by drawing on funding for joint research with corporations and other entities to help subsidize its operations, the program will allow fellowship recipients to participate in that research and give them opportunities to experience those entities' approach to commercialization and the sense of urgency that characterizes associated research. Moreover, the program will seek to enhance fellows' research skills through participation in a variety of seminars and other human resources development programs. Ultimately, the program will help promote technological and societal innovation by offering participants a diverse array of potential career paths, including at research institutions such as universities, including Shinshu University, and at private-sector corporations and venture businesses.

2 Target Qualities

In addition to providing a stipend and research funding to allow Fellows to focus on their research, the fellowship will foster a number of qualities by offering a range of support:

- (1) A finely honed ability to advance research as a researcher or engineer while exercising exceptional leadership
- (2) An ability to solve problems through broad knowledge and expertise that extend beyond one's own area of specialization
- (3) An ability to work with experts and other stakeholders to leverage the fruits of research and development in the service of society, driven by a commitment to parlay science and technology into social value

3 Application Qualifications

In addition to exhibiting exceptional research skills and a desire to focus on research and further study, applicants must satisfy the requirements listed below.

(Commencement of fellowship payments)

However, those who plan to quit the university before completing the doctoral program and are enrolled over the standard term of study will be ineligible.

- (1) Applicants must be enrolled in the Shinshu University Graduate School of Medicine, Science and Technology (including applicants who are planning to enroll and who have taken the entrance examination and are waiting to receive the result). In addition, applicants who applied for or passed the screening process but did not enroll will lose their eligibility.
- (2) Working adults are eligible unless their employer offers a program that would provide sufficient funding to defray living expenses. (*Income before deduction is less than 2.4 million yen / year. Income from part-time jobs is excluded.)
- (3) Applicants must not have been chosen as a special fellow by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, and they may not be an international student who is being supported by a Japanese government (Monbukagakusho: MEXT) scholarship or who is receiving scholarship or other support from their home country.
- (4) Applicants must not have been a recipient of other scholarships, etc. that are not allowed to be received together.
- (5) Faculty advisors must agree to either A or B below:

A: The faculty advisor must be conducting joint research with an annual total budget of at least ¥5 million included indirect expenses (this may include multiple research projects) with one or more corporate partners, and the faculty advisor and others involved with the project must be able to agree to apply indirect expenses in the project budget to the fellowship. If the joint research agreement includes indirect expenses of 10%, that full amount will be treated as fellowship support expenses; if the agreement includes indirect expenses of 30% or 40%, ¥700,000 of the indirect expense budget will be applied to fellowship support expenses each year on a priority basis.

B: It must be possible to expense annual fellowship support expenses of ¥900,000 per year apart from other indirect expenses as part of joint research being conducted by the faculty advisor with one or more corporate partners.

4 Expense-sharing by Corporate Partners

Fellowship recipients must participate in joint research conducted by their faculty advisor with a corporate partner, and in return, a portion of the fellow's program expenses will be paid for through funding associated with that joint research (as described in (5) above). However, that annual figure will be pro-rated by month (over

the period of support) if a fellow draws support for less than one year.

5 Number of Places

The program will accept a maximum of 6 fellows per academic year.(In the case of filling vacancies, there is an increase or decrease)

6 Overview of the Fellowship Program

(1) Fellowship funding (stipend and research funding)

- Maximum funding amount
 - Stipend: ¥1.8 million per year
 - Research funding: ¥300,000 per year

*Applicants who are admitted partway through the academic year will receive an amount that corresponds to the certified fellowship funding period (see Attached Table 1). Starting with the next academic year, they will receive up to 12 months of funding based on the period during which they are eligible to receive fellowship funding.

- Funding period

Period for which fellows are recognized as eligible to receive fellowship funding, to a maximum of three years (or for students in a four-year program, up to four years)

*Depending on the terms of the joint research contract period with the corporate partner in question, funding may only be available for a single academic year.

*The funding period may be shortened if certain conditions under which funding may be canceled or terminated are satisfied.

* Fellows must be in Japan to receive aid.

- Tuition exemption

Fellows will receive a full or partial exemption from tuition charged by the Graduate School of Medicine, Science and Technology.

(2) Support for improving research skills

- Participation in joint research (required)

Fellows will participate in joint research being carried out by faculty advisors and corporate partners, and they will experience those entities' approach to commercialization and the sense of urgency that characterizes associated research. They will also work to improve their ability to communicate and coordinate operations with partner contacts.

- Seminars and workshops (recommended)

The program will host seminars on topics such as authoring papers in English,

giving research presentations in English, writing grants, intellectual property, and innovation, as well as a course entitled Science and Technology Policy in order to improve fellows' research skills.

- Research presentations and exchanges of views (required)
The program will host research presentations and gatherings to facilitate exchanges of views with corporate staff and doctoral program students from other fields to improve fellows' multifaceted, practical research skills.

(3) Career path support

- Corporate internships (recommended)
The program will provide support for fellows who wish to participate in an internship, including help pairing them with an appropriate host company and offering pre- and post-internship training. Fellows will receive assistance to defray travel expenses.
- Mentor interviews (required)
Faculty members other than fellows' advisors and corporate staff will serve as mentors and participate in monthly mentoring sessions.
- Subsidies for qualification and certificate examinations (recommended)
The program offers subsidies to fellows who are interested in taking examinations such as the TOEIC and the Intellectual Property Management Skills Test to defray the cost of testing.
- Entrepreneurship support (required, recommended)
In addition to requiring fellows to participate in a graduate course entitled "Practical Theory of Tech Venture at Shinshu University," the program will host events and other functions related to the cultivation of entrepreneurial skills.

7 Obligations of Fellows

Applicants who are certified as a fellowship recipient will take on the following obligations:

- (1) Dedicating their time and energy to their own research in accordance with the research plan they submitted as part of their fellowship application
- (2) Participating in joint research conducted by their faculty advisor with a corporate partner in a way that seeks to generate the maximum benefit for effort spent
- (3) Participating in university-run programs addressing goals such as improving research skills
- (4) Giving a minimum of one conference presentation a year as long as they are receiving funding from the program
- (5) Working to achieve the goal of a score of Level 2 on the Intellectual Property

Management Skills Test and of 750 points on the TOEIC

- (6) Taking the “Practical Theory of Tech Venture at Shinshu University” graduate course
- (7) Taking the APRIN e-learning program (eAPRIN) on the research ethics
- (8) Submitting activity reports in a timely manner at the end of each academic year and upon completion of the funding period
- (9) Participating in regular interviews with their mentor(s)

*Fellows will be subject to an annual evaluation and may lose their certification if their activities or performance of obligations is found to be lacking.

8 Application Process

The program will follow the schedule outlined below in selecting applicants. If spaces remain unfilled, additional application windows will be created.

(1) Application deadline

See Attached Table 2.

(2) Application method

Fill in required information on the application form and submit it by email to the address listed in the contact information at the end of this document through your faculty advisor. The application form may be downloaded from the program’s website (<https://www.shinshu-u.ac.jp/graduate/fellowship/>). Please submit documentation of English proficiency (for example, a copy of your TOEIC, TOEFL, or EIKEN scores) if available.

(3) Remarks

In light of the nature of the program, individuals interested in applying should first discuss the specifics with their faculty advisor and with the private-sector company with which they plan to conduct joint research. A finalized or expected joint research arrangement is a prerequisite for acceptance. If you are not currently involved in joint research, please consult with the fellowship program’s secretariat.

9 Screening Method and Structures

(1) Screening method

The selection examination will evaluate topics including the applicant’s academic record in his or her master’s program or six-year undergraduate program (for example, in the School of Medicine) as well as his or her doctoral program research plan, English or other language proficiency, knowledge concerning intellectual property and other topics, and leadership (including facilitation and coordination skills) using both written submissions and interviews. Please note that application documents submitted to Shinshu University (including personal information) will be used in the screening process. Acceptance decisions will be made after verifying and carefully examining

joint research arrangements.

(2) Screening date

The screening date will be scheduled about one week after the application deadline. Details will be made available as they are finalized.

10 Announcement of Screening Results

- Results will be communicated by email to applicants and their faculty advisors.
- Applicants who are selected as a fellowship recipient will need to submit the necessary documents as described below.
- Please note that the names of fellowship recipients will be published in the future on the website and in other materials.

11 Additional Application Windows

If the application process for the April 2023 academic year does not yield enough fellows to fill all available spaces, additional application windows will be opened on a monthly basis. The application process will be closed once the program's capacity has been reached.

Application deadline: 25th of the month prior to the start of funding (if the 25th is a Saturday, Sunday, or public holiday, the preceding day) (see Attached Table 2)

Screening date: About 1 week after the application deadline Details will be made available as they are finalized.

Screening results: To be communicated about 2 weeks after the screening date

*For the number of applicants who have been certified as fellows, please see the program's website.

12 Notes

- Those who will receive a Japan Student Services Organization Type 1 Scholarship after 2023 are not eligible for the recommendation of "repayment exemption due to particularly outstanding achievements" in the doctoral course of the graduate school.
- As a rule, the stipend will be paid in monthly allotments into the account specified by each fellow (see Attached Table 1).
- Since the stipend, which is offered to help cover the fellow's living expenses, is considered miscellaneous income, fellows will need to pay tax on those funds by filing their income taxes.
- If you are a dependent of a relative, please inform that person of your selection to participate in the program as the receipt of the stipend may disqualify you as a dependent.

- To use research funding, you will need to consult with your faculty advisor or faculty mentor and complete a process that have been put in place to ensure proper use of funds in keeping with university rules related to public funding and under the supervision of your faculty advisor.
- Please note that the application process for 2023 and subsequent academic years may change based on the Japanese government's FY2023 budget.

13 Contact Information

Please contact the following office for more information about this fellowship program:

Shinshu Industry-Academia Co-creation Fellowship Program Secretariat
(Graduate School Office, Educational Affairs Section, Educational Affairs Department)
Shinshu University

E-mail: fellowship@shinshu-u.ac.jp

Website:

<https://www.shinshu-u.ac.jp/graduate/fellowship/english/>

Attached Table 1 (see sections 6(1) and 12)

2023 academic year Funding period	Maximum funding amount	
	Stipend	Research funding
April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (12 months)	¥1,800,000	¥300,000
May 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (11 months)	¥1,650,000	¥275,000
June 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (10 months)	¥1,500,000	¥250,000
July 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (9 months)	¥1,350,000	¥225,000
August 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (8 months)	¥1,200,000	¥200,000
September 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (7 months)	¥1,050,000	¥175,000
October 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (6 months)	¥900,000	¥150,000
November 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (5 months)	¥750,000	¥125,000
December 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (4 months)	¥600,000	¥100,000

January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024 (3 months)	¥450,000	¥75,000
February 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024 (2 months)	¥300,000	¥50,000
March 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024 (1 month)	¥150,000	¥25,000

Attached Table 2 (see section 11)

2023 academic year Funding (payment) period	Application deadline
April 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (12 months)	5:00 pm on April 25, 2023
June 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (10 months)	5:00 pm on May 25, 2023
July 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (9 months)	5:00 pm on June 23, 2023
August 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (8 months)	5:00 pm on July 25, 2023
September 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (7 months)	5:00 pm on August 25, 2023
October 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (6 months)	5:00 pm on September 25, 2023
November 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (5 months)	5:00 pm on October 25, 2023
December 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024 (4 months)	5:00 pm on November 24, 2023
January 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024 (3 months)	5:00 pm on December 25, 2023
February 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024 (2 months)	5:00 pm on January 25, 2024
March 1, 2024, to March 31, 2024 (1 month)	5:00 pm on February 22, 2024