

ECR Program

March 2023

Kyoto University (KU) Funding Program Call for Kyoto University (KU)-University of Zurich (UZH) ECR Mobility Program Proposals 2023 (KU ECR Program)

In July 2020, Kyoto University (KU) and the University of Zurich (UZH) concluded a Memorandum of Understanding to form a joint strategic partnership. With the goal of initiating and strengthening their cooperation in research and education with UZH, KU have launched a funding program to support joint projects. The funding aims to enable KU and UZH faculty and researchers to identify complementary strengths, facilitate the use of synergies, and promote the future development of projects.

The involvement of early career researchers (ECRs) in the exchange and collaboration between KU and UZH is deemed a vital factor in ensuring its sustainability. The funding ECR Program seeks to develop sustainable collaboration and exchange in all research domains.

Amount of funding provided through the program

Up to JPY 500,000 per person for the travel expenses of approximately 2 to 3 KU researchers visiting UZH for short-term research stays.

Persons eligible to receive support from this funding program

Persons with any of the following statuses at KU for the duration of the KU-UZH joint project are eligible to apply for this program:

- Master's/PhD students
- Researchers who have held a PhD or master's degree for less than eight years prior to May 1, 2023*1

Funding period

Funding recipients must visit UZH between July 2023 to early March 2024. Travel expenses will be provided in accordance with the applicable regulations of KU. The proposed activities should be conducted during the period July 2023 to early March 2024.

^{*1} The researchers must be employed by KU. When counting the years after PhD/master's acquisition, periods of maternity/paternity leave and childcare leave can be excluded. When submitting the application, please ensure that there are no problems with regards to the effort management and travel procedures of the person undertaking the visit.



Selection criteria

Funding for joint activities will be provided on a competitive basis. Projects will be selected by a KU committee, giving particular attention to the following criteria:

- A clearly formulated activity plan (comprehensible to non-experts).
- Potential for strengthening institutional links between KU and UZH.
- Potential for the development of sustainable research collaboration and exchange.
- Potential for acquiring third party funding in the future.
- Validity of the reasons for which the funding is necessary.

Submission and deadline

Proposals should be submitted by full-time faculty members of KU who will continue to be employed (or expected to be employed) for the duration of the KU-UZH joint project. Applications on behalf of a student or a research fellow should be made by their supervisor. Proposals must be submitted in English. Please submit your proposal as a single PDF file.

The required application documents are as follows:

- 1) Completed application form, including:
 - a) Project title
 - b) Details of the applicant, and the visiting and hosting researchers
 - c) Description of the planned project/activities (max. length: 2 pages)
 - d) Budget calculation
- 2) Complete CVs of the visiting and host researchers (max. length 2 pages per CV)
- 3) A letter of invitation issued by the host researcher at UZH

Proposals must be submitted by 9:00 (JST) May 10, 2023.

Please Note: This is the deadline established by the International Affairs Division.

Since applicants must apply for this program through the relevant administrative staff in their faculty/department of affiliation, they must be sure to confirm their faculty/department's internal deadline with the administrative section in charge of international affairs in their faculty/department.

A report of the program must be submitted after its completion. The report shall be made publicly available.

Please be sure to acknowledge the receipt of funding from this program when announcing any outcomes obtained from research supported by this funding.

If any false information is found in the application documents submitted, a refund may be requested, even after the funded project has been implemented. Incomplete application documents may result in the application being deemed invalid.