

**Job Announcement for an Associate (or Assistant) Professor  
at the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science,  
the Japan Aerospace Space Exploration Agency**

The Japan Aerospace Space Exploration Agency (JAXA) is seeking to recruit an associate (or assistant) professor for the Department of Interdisciplinary Space Science, as described below. We widely call for recommendations and applications.

**1. Title and Number of Position(s)**

One Associate or Assistant Professor (Academic Staff)

**2. Department**

Department of Interdisciplinary Space Science, at the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS).

**3. Summary of Position (Duties and Required Abilities)**

The Department of Interdisciplinary Space Science is promoting new cross-cutting fields in space science with relevant studies, and emerging research fields as space science. Specifically, cross-cutting academic research with respect to “Space and Matter”, “Space and Life” and “Space and Information” are promoted as major pillars, and this department is actively working in particular on experiments and research using micro space probes, suborbital space flights or parabolic flights such as the International Space Station (ISS), sounding rockets, and scientific balloons.

In "Space and Life", space science and life science fields closely cooperate, the searching for the origin and evolution of life in space is actively promoted using flight vehicles. In the space experiment “Tanpopo Project” conducted by our department, we are progressing for the verification of both the arrival of cosmic dust to Earth and the possibility of interplanetary transfer of lives from Earth by the Exposed Facility on ISS-KIBO. Moreover, from now on, it is expected that the exploration of the origin of life will be extended to the Moon, the Mars, the Saturn, and even exoplanets while making use of the academic and technological heritage of the ISS experiments. Therefore, the promotion of space exploration research on the origin of life and acquisition of planetary protection technology will be more important for future deep space exploration in our country. Also, the knowledge and experience of microbiology are essential in its accomplishment.

The candidate for an associate or assistant professor position is expected, as his/her duty, to be the member of the Department of Interdisciplinary Space Science and to explore the

origin of life in space as their own research and also expected to play the central role in promoting the planetary protection in the age of international space exploration that is supposed to be started at late 2020s.

The job description includes the following duties.

- Work on realistic scheme construction, technology development, and operation, regarding planetary protection in Japan.
- Contribute to the development of the astrobiology that has just begun. Especially an Associate Professor position will aim to pioneer and to systematize astrobiology based on experiments and observations in deep space exploration missions.
- Participate in space missions related to life origin exploration and cooperate with other team members and manufacturers as core members, and to promote plans while maximizing scientific results.
- Promote research coordination between ISAS and universities, and also teaching and directing graduate students, based on the understanding that ISAS acts as an inter-university research institute. Participate in various activities in JAXA positively and contribute to research and development and project creation and promotion by utilizing specialized research capabilities

To fulfill these duties, the successful candidate shall at least meet the following conditions.

- (1) Have experience in research on microbiology with excellent achievements in Japan or abroad.
- (2) Have an ability to utilize his/her knowledge considering the future development of deep space exploration, although experience in the research using a flight vehicle is not essential. In addition to these abilities, a candidate for an Associate Professor position is required to have a long-term vision in promoting deep space exploration.
- (3) Have a strong motivation in teaching and directing graduate students.

#### **4. Terms and Conditions**

- (1) Salary will be determined under the provision of JAXA wage rules and regulations, taking into account ability and experience.
- (2) Working days: Monday – Friday, except Japanese national holidays, year-end and New-Year holidays, annual vacation, WLB annual leave, celebration or condolence leave, maternity leave, child-care leave, care leave, nursing leave, volunteer activities, etc.
- (3) Office hours: 9:30-17:45, in principle, with a recess from 12:15 to 13:00 (however, a discretionary labor system is applied).

- (4) Overtime work: may be required (however, a discretionary labor system is applied, and working hours per day are regarded as 7.5 hours).
- (5) Duty location: JAXA Sagami-hara campus (ISAS), Kanagawa, Japan.
- (6) Employment Status: Full-time/Retirement age is 63.
- (7) Lodgings: lodgings suitable for a family or a single occupant may be provided under the provision of JAXA in consideration of the nature of the work. (Lodging term is limited to 7 years.) Alternatively, an allowance for lodging shall be paid.
- (8) Social insurances (health insurance, pension plan, etc.) will be provided in full.

## **5. Eligibility**

PhD degree is required.

## **6. Commencement of Assignment**

At the earliest possible date after selection. Some coordination might be needed according to JAXA's budget situation.

## **7. Application Documents**

Submit one copy each of the following:

- (1) Curriculum vitae
- (2) Research career history
- (3) Summary of previous research and outline of future research plan (Including contribution to projects and ambitions for educational activities. Describe a research plan by bearing in mind especially the four duties in Section 3. Please indicate the position (Associate Professor or Assistant Professor) which you will apply.)
- (4) List of research achievements (Describe the impact factor or the number of citations.)
- (5) List of awarded research funds through competition (type of funds, amount, principal investigator or co-investigator)
- (6) Contact information of two referees (names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses for a direct inquiry from JAXA). If you are recommended by others, please provide two letters of recommendation.
- (7) Photocopies of major research papers or other publications (within three papers) published in refereed academic journals

Note: If you are a resident of the European Economic Area (the EU zone), you are required to submit the following document as well.

- (8) Consent form for handling personal information based on GDPR  
(Form No.1) Download form from the website listed in "8.Submission".

## **8. Submission**

Submit the application through the following website

(1) for Associate Professor: <https://isas-appli-form.jaxa.jp/forms1/1564386223>

(2) for Assistant Professor: <https://isas-appli-form.jaxa.jp/forms1/1564973891>

following the instructions on the site.

All of the files to be uploaded shall be in pdf format. Note that documents (2) to (5) need to be merged into one pdf file.

Referees will be asked to upload their recommendations directly to the website.

Application delivered in person or by mail shall not be accepted.

## **9. Application Deadline**

Tuesday, October 15, 2019, 9:30 (JST).

Applies to both web input and all necessary files, including letters of recommendation for recommended applicants.

Please access the above website and check how to submit necessary documents for application (including letters of recommendation if the applicant is recommended by others) as soon as possible. If the application is made too close to the deadline, it will be difficult for recommenders to submit a letter of recommendation. Please secure enough lead time so that all the necessary documents will be ready before the deadline.

## **10. Contact at the Department of Interdisciplinary Space Science**

Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, JAXA

Director of Department of Interdisciplinary Space Science:

Prof. Yoko Inatomi

Tel: +81-50-3362-5180    E-mail: [inatomi.yuko@jaxa.jp](mailto:inatomi.yuko@jaxa.jp)

For inquiries regarding Application Submission in Section 8:

Management and Integration Department

Human Resources Section

Fax: +81-42-759-8440    E-mail: [ISAS-JINJI@jaxa.jp](mailto:ISAS-JINJI@jaxa.jp)

## **11. Other Remarks**

Applications will be examined and selected by the Advisory Council for Research and

Management of ISAS, JAXA.

Traveling expenses necessary for the examination and selection shall be borne at the applicant's own expense. ISAS/JAXA actively welcomes female applicants.

<Handling of Personal Information>

The personal information provided to ISAS/JAXA will be used and handled solely for the selection purpose. ISAS/JAXA will discard all personal information of unsuccessful applicants after the selection.

Note: <Consent form for handling personal information based on GDPR>

For the purposes of affairs related to the selection and human resource management, JAXA needs to collect your personal data requested in the present form.

You may at any time object to the use of your data for this purpose by writing to the following address: ISAS-JINJI @ml.jaxa.jp

You will find below all the detailed information concerning this processing of your personal data and a reminder of your rights, in application of the legislation in force.

JAXA, willing to respect the privacy and protection of personal data of its prospects and clients, complies with the legislation in force regarding the protection of personal data as data controller, and in particular Law no. 78-17 of 6 January 1978 (the "Data Protection Act") and, from 25 May 2018, Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and the free movement of such data (the "GDPR").

JAXA does not transfer personal data to third countries or parties outside the European Economic Area.

Personnel who transfers from National University Corporation, etc.\* (hereinafter referred to as “previous position”) to JAXA Educational Employee will be treated under the following contents. However, personnel who have received his/her retirement allowance (including the equivalent payment) is excluded.

\* National University Corporation, Inter-University Research Institute Corporation, National Institute of Technology, National Institution for Academic Degrees and Quality Enhancement of Higher Education, and National Center for University Entrance Examinations.

1. **Period of Employment concerning Year-End Allowance**  
Employment period to the previous position will be added up to the tenure as a JAXA Educational Employee.
2. **Regional Adjustment Allowance Guarantee**  
Regional adjustment allowance is guaranteed based on JAXA’s regulations, considering the work location on the day before the starting day at JAXA, in case of necessity.
3. **Payment Requirements for Business Bachelor Allowance**  
Allowance may be paid for those who is continuingly a business bachelor from the previous position, only in case of fulfilling the requirements based on JAXA’s regulation.
4. **Days of Annual Leave**  
Remaining days and time of the annual leave from the previous position will be taken over. Therefore, JAXA will need the acquired results of annual leave at the previous position.