

NAOJ research No. 61
December 2, 2024

To: The heads of relevant institutions

From: Doi Mamoru, Director General, National Observatory of Japan

FY2025 Call for Research Assemblies on Open Application Basis (Notification)

The National Astronomical Observatory of Japan (NAOJ) is issuing a call for applications for Research Assemblies. Please convey this notification to researchers at your organization.

1. Purpose

NAOJ promotes advanced research for astronomy and related fields as international research centers, and provides places for joint research and collaborative research for researchers in universities or other institutions throughout the country.

This program is intended to support international or domestic research assemblies as a place to communicate and interact for researchers.

It is hoped that those collaborative events with NAOJ will contribute excellent research and development, creating new areas of research, cultivating next-generation researchers, and popularizing and developing astronomy.

2. Intended assemblies

-International or domestic research assemblies jointly held by applicants and Research and Academic Staff and/or Specially Appointed Teachers (Employees on Annual salary system) at NAOJ.

*Evaluating divided into categories such as “General research assembly”, “Regular assembly hosted by research communities”, “Assembly on public outreach or education on astronomy” was discontinued.

Research assemblies should be held on the following period.

First application period: From April 2025 to March 2026.

Second application period: From October 2025 to March 2026.

-The venue should be at one of facilities at NAOJ, universities or research institutions, however according to the plan, another venue is acceptable. Please write the reason why the assembly should be held outside of NAOJ, universities, or research institutions.

3. Eligibility (Only applicants who meets all of the following criteria with be considered)

(1) Researchers at national, municipal, and private universities; and national and municipal research institutions; or any person with equivalent status.

(If you are a graduate student, please submit an application to your instructor.)

(2) Those who have been accepted to apply and implement the plan by the head of the organization, and submit an agreement form in the specified form.

(Applicants who employed by NAOJ do not need to submit an agreement form.)

(3) Those who have not been suspended by The Cross-Ministerial R&D Management System (e-Rad).

4. Amount of grant and expected number of adaptations

Budget of a year: approximately 9 million yen.

The amount of each adopted proposal: Less than 1,000,000 yen.

*Two-thirds of the budget will be allocated for the first application and one-third will be for the second application period.

5. Intended expenses

(1) Travel expenses

(2) Expenses for online assemblies

(3) Other expenses: such as renting venues, printing brochures, registration of meetings and so on. The cost of refreshments is not acceptable.

*All those items should be written on the application form and accepted by the committee at the screening.

6. How to apply and Application Period

【How to Apply】

The (1) “Web Application” and (2) “Submission of the Agreement Form” are both required.

(1) WEB-application by NOUS(<https://www.nins.jp/nous/>):

Applications are required to be submitted through NOUS, the portal site for joint use/joint research.

(2) Submission of “the Agreement Form”: Applicants are required to prepare “the Agreement Form” sealed by the head of one’s affiliation and submit it on the URL (<https://y2.nao.ac.jp/index.php/s/wDro2w38m59xtsR>).

• Please download the Agreement Form from the following URL [Reference].

• The name of the PDF file should be the name of the applicant. (Example: SmithJohn.pdf)

【Application Period】

First application period (Target period: From April, 2025 to March, 2026)

Web Application: From Mon, Dec. 2, 2024 to Fri, Jan. 17, 2025, 17:00 (JST)

Upload Agreement Form: From Mon, Dec. 2, 2024 to Fri, Jan.31, 2025, 17:00 (JST)

Second application period (Target period: From October 2025 to March, 2026)

Web Application: From Mon, Apr. 14 to Fri, Jun. 20, 2025, 17:00 (JST)

Upload Agreement Form: From Mon, Apr. 14 to Fri. Jul. 4, 2025, 17:00 (JST)

*Applications received after the deadline will NOT be considered.

【Reference】 <https://www2.nao.ac.jp/~open-info/kouryuu/koubo/researchassembly/index.html>

7. Selection and Announcement of the Results

The Director General of NAOJ will make the final decisions on the adoption of research proposals and the allocation of the budget, following deliberation by the Research Coordination Committee of NAOJ.

Deliberation on proposal adoption is scheduled to be conducted in late February 2025 for the first screening, and in late July to early August for the second screening. We will convey the results to the applicants and the head of their organizations.

8. Screening criteria

Screening will be focused on the following points.

(1) Academic significance (including the impact of scientific study on society)

(2) Significance of conducting the assembly at NAOJ.

(3) Achievability of the plan

9. Research Report

Please submit a research report in the specified format within 30 days following the completion of a research assembly. The report may be posted on the webpage.

10. Acknowledgements

If you publish your research products from this joint research in academic journals etc., please be sure to clearly indicate in the acknowledgements that the program contributed to the results and include Grant Number (NAOJ-RCC-xxxx-xxxx).

*Example: (Part of) This work was supported by NAOJ Research Coordination Committee, NINS (NAOJ-RCC-xxxx-xxxx).

11. Handling of Personal Information

Personal information of applicants will be used only for selecting the proposal and carrying out the adopted research assembly. The name of the successful candidate, the title of the research assembly, and part of the report will be posted on the Research Coordination Committee website etc.

12. Promotion of Gender Equality

NAOJ is committed to the realization of a society with gender equality.

Our support system for gender equality is also available to those who visit NAOJ such as for joint research or conferences. For details, see

<https://www2.nao.ac.jp/~open-info/gender-equality/en/>

13. Others

When using facilities at NAOJ, please comply with the regulations of both the National Institutes of Natural Sciences and NAOJ, and follow the instructions given by the responsible person in charge of the facilities.

14. Where to Submit Agreement forms and inquiries

Research Support Unit, Research Promotion Division, Administration Department
National Institutes of Natural Sciences, National Astronomical Observatory of Japan

2-21-1 Osawa, Mitaka, Tokyo 181-8588

Phone:0422-34-3661

E m a i l : k e n k y u (a t) n a o . a c . j p

U R L : <https://www2.nao.ac.jp/~open-info/kouryuu/index.html>