

NAOJ research No. 62  
December 15, 2025

To: The heads of relevant institutions

From: Mamoru Doi  
Director General  
National Astronomical Observatory of Japan

## **FY2026 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 (hereafter referred to as "Research Assemblies") by providing a platform for researchers to communicate and interact. 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.

Research assemblies should be conducted in the following period.

**From April 2026 to March 2027.**

**\*As of now, this call for Research Assemblies will be held only once for the Fiscal Year 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 above-mentioned facilities in “Other comments” on the page 3 of the Application Form.

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

- (1) Researchers at national, municipal, and private universities; as well as national and municipal research institutions; or any person with equivalent status as above-mentioned affiliations. (The applicant might be a graduate student, please apply together with one’s instructor.)
- (2) Those who have not been suspended by The Cross-Ministerial R&D Management System (e-Rad).
- (3) Those who are able to obtain agreement by the head of one’s affiliated institution for applying and implementing this application. Applicants are required to obtain agreement in form of a letter “Agreement Form”. The form is available from the URL of the Research Coordination Committee.

**4. Amount of grant and expected number of adaptations**

Budget for the Fiscal Year 2026: approximately 4.4 million yen.

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

**5. Intended expenses**

- (1) Travel expenses (Travel support for participants, travel expenses for invited speakers, etc.)
- (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.

**Expenses will be allocated to the department to which the NAOJ person in charge of accounting belongs and must be executed accordingly. Please follow NAOJ's financial**

execution rules.

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

- Please download the Agreement Form from the following URL [Reference].
- Submission of the original document by postal mail is not required.
- The title of the PDF file should be the name of the applicant. (Example: SmithJohn.pdf)
- Not required if the applicant is an employee of NAOJ.

### 【Application Period】

Web Application: From Mon, Dec. 15, 2025, to Tue, Jun. 20, 2026, noon (JST)

Upload Agreement Form: From Mon, Dec. 15, 2025, to Fri. Jun.30, 2026, noon (JST)

\*Applications received after the deadline will NOT be considered.

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

### 【Notes on Application】

- At the time of application, please designate the applicant, the NAOJ in charge of this assembly, and the NAOJ person in charge of accounting as coordinators for the Research Assembly. The NAOJ in charge of this assembly and the NAOJ person in charge of accounting might be the same individual.
- Please include specific plans and the expected number of participants in your application.

## 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.

Screening on the proposals for Fiscal Year 2026 is scheduled to be conducted from early February to mid-March 2026. We will convey the results to the applicants and the head of their affiliated institution.

## **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. Changes After Approval**

If any changes occur after approval, please consult with the Research Support Unit at NAOJ.

## **10. 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.

## **11. 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).

## **12. 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 NAOJ website etc.

## **13. 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/>

#### **14. Others**

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

Once a proposal is adopted, any student or researcher with no affiliation who is to participate in the joint research must join the “Disaster and Accident Insurance for Student Education and Research” or an equivalent insurance scheme.

#### **15. Where to Submit Agreement forms and inquiries**

Research Support Unit, Research Promotion Division, Administration Department,  
NAOJ

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

E mail: [kenkyu\(at\)nao.ac.jp](mailto:kenkyu@nao.ac.jp)

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