

**Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research - KAKENHI -  
Review of Items (Change of Application Requirements) for AY2018 Open Recruitment  
(Planned for September 2017) of "Young Scientists (A / B)"**

## 1. Introduction

As part of the reform to the KAKENHI by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the items for the current "Young Scientists (A / B)" have been reviewed starting from the 2018 open recruitment (planned for September 2017), in order to assuredly meet the diverse needs involved in the career formation of young scientists.

Specifically, there will be no new recruitment for "Young Scientists (A)" as it will be combined with Scientific Research Activities, and "Young Scientists (B)" will be renamed "Early-Career Scientists," and the application requirements will be changed from the conventional "Age (39 or under)" to "Years after acquiring a doctorate degree (\*1) (less than 8 years)" (as a transitional measure, persons 39 years of age or under who have not acquired a doctorate degree can apply. Also, the limitation which limits the same scientist to receiving funds to 2 times will include the times "Young Scientists (S / A / B)" funding was received before this review.).

(\*1) Definition of a doctorate degree

"Doctorate" in the application requirements for "Early-Career Scientists" refers to a doctorate as a degree. Therefore, it includes dissertation doctorates and degrees equivalent to a doctorate acquired overseas (such as a Ph.D.), but a scientist cannot apply with a doctorate as an honorary title that is not a degree (such as an honorary doctorate). Also, professional graduate school programs are not included in doctoral programs, so a scientist cannot apply with the said degree.

As a result, for prospective applicants for "Early-Career Scientists" who have acquired a doctorate degree, the university must confirm the date they acquired their doctorate degree and register it in e-Rad in advance (the scientist himself/herself cannot input data into e-Rad).

## 2. Application Requirements for "Early-Career Scientists" (Age current as of April 1, 2018)

	Acquisition of doctorate degree			
	As of April 1, 2018		Upon application	
	Less than 8 years (*2)	8 years or more	Not acquired	Expected to be acquired
40 years of age or older	<b>Can apply</b>	Cannot apply	Cannot apply	<b>Can apply</b> (Conditions apply (*3))
39 years of age or younger	<b>Can apply</b>	Cannot apply	<b>Can apply</b> (Transitional measure (*4))	<b>Can apply</b> (Transitional measure (*4))

(\*2) Cases will also apply if they are less than 8 years after acquiring a doctorate degree once childcare leave and the like (pre-birth / post-birth maternity leave, childcare leave) taken after acquiring a doctorate degree have been taken into account (round up the sum of the leave taken in academic years and subtract it from the number of years after a doctorate was acquired). Also, if the applicant has acquired multiple doctorate degrees, it must be less than 8 years counting from the date on which the first doctorate degree was acquired.

(\*3) If the applicant could not acquire the doctorate degree by April 1, 2018, they must withdraw their grant application, even if it is adopted.

(\*4) The period for the transitional measure shall be approximately 3 years after the new requirements are implemented, and shall be determined upon later reinvestigation in light of applications and adoptions.

**[Other conditions]**

- ✓ The limitation which limits the same scientist to receiving funds to 2 times will include the times "Young Scientists (S / A / B)" funding was received before this review.

**3. To those who "can apply" according to the table above**

**[STEP 1]**

Use the "Self-Check Sheet for Confirming Application Requirements for 'Early-Career Scientists'" on the Research Division's homepage (\*5) to check the corresponding application requirements again.

- (\*5) "Self-Check Sheet for Confirming Application Requirements for 'Early-Career Scientists'"  
<http://www.ritsumeai.ac.jp/file.jsp?id=348887>

**[STEP 2]**

Of these, for persons who have acquired a doctorate degree less than 8 years ago, the university must register the date they acquired their doctorate degree in e-Rad in advance. Please fill in the required items on the reverse side of the Self-Check Sheet (Notification of Date of Acquisition of Doctorate Degree for Application to "Early-Career Scientists") and submit that with a copy of your diploma to the person in charge of KAKENHI applications at the Research Office on your campus of affiliation by Tuesday, October 10, 2017 (can be submitted via e-mail). Furthermore, the copy of the diploma is not limited to paper and can be submitted using photo data.

**< Contact information for person in charge of KAKENHI applications  
at each Research Office by campus of affiliation  
(Location to submit the Notification of Date of Acquisition of Doctorate Degree  
for Application to "Early-Career Scientists" and copy of the diploma) >**

- ✓ Persons affiliated with Kinugasa Campus or Suzaku Campus  
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**4. Miscellaneous**

For details related to "Early-Career Scientists," check the AY2018 open recruitment guidelines, which are expected to be published in September 2017. Also, whenever the Research Division receives new information, we provide that information to researchers by listing it on the Research Division homepage and by sending e-mails.

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