

Contest Entry Information ~ Communicating your research to others ~

“Research Proposal Contest” is a contest on “How to make the idea real” and “How to write the research plan more attractive”. This contest is held once a year since 2013 with the same contents of JSPS application on the purpose of being selected as Research Fellowship for Young Scientists.

Those who enter for Research Proposal Contest can get the examination result with the review comments of examiners. For those who have applied for JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists before are encouraged to use this chance for brush up. For those who plan to apply for JSPS are motivated to utilize this for practice. The winners will receive prizes, and Grand Prize Winner will get a chance to present his/her research at Rice Ball Seminar to gain his/her experiences.

Those who don't aim to be Research Fellowship for Young Scientists are also encouraged to entry this contest positively to get the feedback on how to write their research plan and have a chance to present their researches. For all graduate students, would you like to try writing your research plan and get an evaluation on your plan by others? We are looking forward to your entry!

To prepare for the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists application

The content and format of the application form for this research proposal contest is almost the same as that of JSPS (JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists). JSPS accept applications every year. Therefore, this annual research proposal contest could be considered as a training before applying for JSPS. We expect applicants of the research proposal contest to proactively apply to the JSPS after the contest and being selected for JSPS.

Objective

- (1) To improve conceptualization skills for research.
- (2) To develop your ability to convey your specialist knowledge and research results to wider society.
- (3) To improve your generic writing skills.

Qualification Requirements

Graduate students who are currently enrolled in a master's program, doctoral program, 5-year doctoral program, or professional degree program at Ritsumeikan University are eligible to enter.

Field of Study

Humanities and Social Science / Science and Engineering

Deadline

Wednesday, October 23, 2019 by 5:00 p.m.

How to Enter

Submit the application data to the Office of Graduate Studies by email. d-cp@st.ritsumei.ac.jp

Announcement of Results

Mid November, 2019. The results will be manaba+R.

Awards Ceremony

Mid-December, 2018. (To be announced)

The first-place winners will present their research proposal at the awards ceremony.

After the ceremony, a small party will be held for all contestants.

Awards

Grand prize – 2 students (1 for each field) (Certificate & Amazon gift card ¥30,000)

Excellence award – 4 students (2 for each field) (Certificate & Amazon gift card ¥10,000)

Incentive award – 6 students (3 for each field) (Certificate)

Hosted by

Graduate Students Career Path Support Center

Application Guidelines

Application

- (1) Only one application per person is permitted. (Joint research is not accepted.)
- (2) Applications must be completed by the applicant.
- (3) Applicants who have applied before cannot apply with the same research proposal. The contents this time must be improved including some progress.
- (4) Documents submitted in application will not be returned. Please ensure that you make copies of all documents you submit.
- (5) Applications that do not meet the requirements or do not abide by the rules for submission will not be processed.
- (6) If any falsification of research progress or results is found on the application, the applicant will be severely punished in accordance with Ritsumeikan University Student Disciplinary Regulations.
- (7) We cannot answer queries regarding screening process.
- (8) Please contact the Office of Graduate Studies if you have a visual or hearing disability and have difficulty indicating by figures.

Writing

- (1) Download the application form from the website of the Graduate Students Career Path Support Center. Please make sure to complete your application using the prescribed forms for this contest and type them

using a font size of 10.5 point. If you change the prescribed format or **if you attach documents composed on paper other than the prescribed form, your application will not be accepted.**

Forms can be downloaded here: http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/g-career/eng/program/list/article.html?id=160

- (2) Use diagrams (graphs, charts or other methods) to provide a general outline of your research in the “Research outline diagram” box. (Page 2 of the application form)

Refer to the diagrams of the last year's awardees:

✧ AY2018 http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/g-career/news/article.html?id=226

✧ AY2017 http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/g-career/news/article.html?id=183

✧ AY2016 http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/g-career/news/article.html?id=149

- (3) Complete your application using a computer.
- (4) Applications should be written in Japanese or English.
- (5) Use graphs, charts, or other visual aids to make your research proposal understandable to readers, who may not necessarily be experts in, nor have previous knowledge of, your field. Do not use abbreviations.
- (6) The application data must be submitted in PDF format. (d-cp@st.ritsumei.ac.jp)

Evaluation

Criteria

The following examination items will be reviewed from the perspectives of (1) Consistency of argument and format (2) Readability and clarity of explanation (3) Creativity (4) Concreteness of research plan/proposal (5) Research Achievement.

- (1) Research outline diagram
Whether Research outline diagram keeps the main points of the proposal and explains the content clearly and attractive.
- (2) Research background
Whether research background is explained with references based on the research situation so far, whether the argument and format are consistent.
- (3) Research objectives/details
Whether the objectives of the research are concretely and clearly indicated, whether methods and plans for achieving the research objectives are well thought-out, whether the argument and format are consistent and intellectually suggestive.
- (4) Unique/creative features of the research
Whether the perspective of setting research topics are distinctive and inventive, whether there will be expected impact and future prospects when the research is completed, whether the argument and format are consistent and intellectually suggestive.
- (5) Research Achievement
Research Achievement will be evaluated in consideration of applicants' courses and grades.
- (6) Motivation for becoming a researcher, intended image of a researcher in the future, strength points
Evaluate applicant's qualification and ability to accomplish his/her research plan.

Method

- (1) Applications will be evaluated by a screening committee established by the Graduate Student Career Path Support Center.
- (2) If any falsification of research progress or results is found on the application, the applicant will be severely punished in accordance with Ritsumeikan University Student Disciplinary Regulations.

[Handling of Personal Information]

Personal information obtained by the contest organizer as part of the Ritsumeikan University Graduate School Research Proposal Contest will be managed and handled in accordance with the Ritsumeikan Trust Basic Policy for the Protection of Personal Information. However, names, affiliations and research outline diagram of awardees will be posted at the awards ceremony and on the Ritsumeikan websites.

Past applicants adopted

Of the 44 applicants for this contest over the past three years, a total of 12 have applied, and 5 of them have been hired at the present time (because the hiring results in 2020 were not announced). It seems that it is linked to a certain result.

To apply for JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists

We hope graduate students to proactively apply to the JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists, which starts calling for applicants around May. Graduate Student Career Path Support Center will provide support for students who are applying for JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists as follows. We expect applicants to review the feedback of this contest, refine the research plan, and apply for JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists.

Sep. 25- Oct. 23, 2019	Entry Period for Research Proposal Contest
Late November, 2019	Announcement of Results (with feedback)
November.26, 2019	Awards Ceremony of Research Proposal Contest
Late January, 2020	Application Seminar for 2020 JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists (Brush up Seminar/Challenge Seminar)
Around February, 2020	Application for 2020 JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists will be disclosed
Early in April, 2020	Application Guidance and Seminar for JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists
May, 2020	Advice & correction on applications for JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists
※ About JSPS	http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/gcareer/fellow/doctor/article.html/?id=23

(Contact) Office of Graduate Studies at Kinugasa Campus, Staff for JSPS
Email : grad-sch@st.ritsumei.ac.jp Telephone : 075-465-8195

Research presentation at Rice Ball Seminar

Rice Ball Seminar is a seminar for people in Ritsumeikan such as faculties, young researchers (postdoctoral fellow, research assistants), graduates students, undergraduate students etc. Attendee will see researchers' presentation and have free discussions by having snacks during lunch time.

On Rice Ball Seminar which will be held on Tuesday, November 26 (during Graduate School Week), Grand Prize Winners of liberal arts and science courses (*) will present their researches as representatives. An award ceremony and lunch meeting will be held after Rice Ball Seminar.

*In case Grand Prize Winner can't attend Rice Ball Seminar, Excellent Award Winner will have a presentation instead.

Contact and Inquiries

Office of Graduate Studies (Moriyama ・ Matsuda)

Phone: 075-465-8195

Email: d-cp@st.ritsumei.ac.jp