

AY2023 NU-RU Visiting Researchers Program (Hosting Scheme) Application Guidelines

In 2019, Ritsumeikan University (hereinafter, “the University”) signed a cooperation agreement with the Buffett Institute for Global Affairs at Northwestern University in the USA (2022 QS World University Ranking: 30th, THE: 24th; hereinafter, “NU”), confirming that the two universities would exchange faculty members and researchers. Since then, there has been collaboration between researchers from both universities in various fields and at various levels that has resulted in beneficial research results. The NU-RU Visiting Researchers Program was launched in AY2022 and will be continued in AY2023 as a concrete measure to further expand the scope of collaboration between the two universities as well as to elevate its pinnacle.

We will be accepting applications regarding plans for joint research between NU researchers and researchers of the University as follows:

1. Aim of This Program

We will promote academic collaboration between researchers of the University and NU researchers, and will publish international co-authored papers through such collaboration. Furthermore, we aim to improve the international reputation of the University by linking this program to future international collaborative research and the acquisition of overseas grants.

2. Program Content

The program consists of an on-site phase in which one NU researcher stays at the University for up to three months, and a remote phase in which researchers from both universities conduct research while remaining in their own countries. The remote phase is further divided into the pre-period, which is a preparatory stage before the on-site phase, and the post-period, which is after the on-site phase and is intended for disseminating concrete results and developing academic collaboration to the next level. This division is intended to ensure the generation of results. However, it is possible to apply for the on-site phase without going through the pre-period, and it is also not mandatory to apply for the post-period after the on-site phase.

Research activity support expenses will be allocated to cover expenses such as the costs of domestic transportation, translation, binding of materials, hosting of workshops, paper proofreading, and paper submissions.

In any case, the researcher of the University will be the host researcher for the NU researcher. In addition, a research implementation report must be submitted before the end of the academic year.

After each phase is implemented, an interview will be held with the program advisor (Dean of the Division of Research, or a researcher of the University designated by the Dean of the Division of Research) as appropriate to confirm the progress of the research up to the submission of an academic paper.

| Phase (Period) | | Expenses to be borne by the University | | | Duties | No. of adopted applications *3 |
|----------------|------|--|--------------------|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|
| | | Travel expenses (round trip) | Housing expenses | Research activity support expenses | | |
| On-site | | Actual expenses *1 | Actual expenses *2 | Up to 500,000 yen | Hold workshops during the stay period. Submit an international co-authored paper within two years after the implementation of the program if you did not apply for the post-period in the following academic year. | About 2 applications |
| Remote | Pre | n/a | n/a | Up to 500,000 yen | Hold workshops during the implementation period. Submit an international co-authored paper within two years if you did not apply for the on-site phase in the following academic year. | About 2 to 5 applications |
| | Post | n/a | n/a | Up to 200,000 yen | Implement the post-period in the academic year following the on-site phase, and submit an international co-authored paper within one year after implementation. | |

*1: Limited to economy class. *2: Monthly amount of up to 140,000 yen.

*3: The breakdown of adopted applications may be altered within the total budget amount, in light of immigration restrictions and the like in both Japan and the USA.

3. Application Eligibility

[Host Researcher]

Professors, Associate Professors, Tokubetsu Keiyaku Kyoin (special contract faculty) (Professors and Associate Professors), Ninkisei Kyoin (fixed-term faculty) (Professors, Associate Professors, Lecturers, Assistant Professors), Eminent Research Professors (Professors and Associate Professors), Tokunin (specially-appointed) Assistant Professors, Shonin (initially-appointed) Assistant Professors, and Assistants <teaching staff only> of the University. In principle, the employment period should be at least until the end of AY2025.

[NU Researcher]

Any researcher with an employment contract with NU, regardless of affiliation or position.

4. Screening Procedure

- (1) The Screening Committee for the NU-RU Visiting Researchers Program will be established and Screening Committee members will conduct a document screening.
- (2) A Screening Committee will meet to determine the adopted researchers.
- (3) The Committee on Research Administration is notified of the adoption results.

5. Screening Criteria

- (1) Does the application propose the generation of research results that will be evaluated highly in international journals?
- (2) Are the promotion plan and research methods appropriate and are the contents suitable for implementing them?
- (3) Are the project's intended goals clearly defined?
- (4) Does the application indicate, in concrete terms, the capability of the host researcher and NU researcher to carry out the research plan and the status of preparation for the said research?

6. Restriction on Duplication

- The same combination of researchers cannot apply for a phase or period (Pre/Post) for which they have been adopted in the past.

7. Notes

[General]

- The cornerstone of the exchange with NU is the cooperation agreement between the NU Buffett Institute for Global Affairs and the Ritsumeikan Asia-Japan Research Organization. Therefore, host researchers will accept NU researchers as visiting researchers at the Ritsumeikan Asia-Japan Research Organization.
- After the end of the support period under this program, researchers shall make use of schemes such as the Division of Research's "International Collaborative Research Promotion Program," the JSPS's Invitational Fellowships for Research in Japan, and bilateral exchange programs to further develop their research.
- Host researchers must nominate the relevant NU researchers as respondents to the QS Global Academic Survey to be administered during the corresponding academic year. However, this does not apply if the nomination has already been made in the past academic years.

[On-site Phase]

- The hosting period is, in general, to be within three months from April 2023 to March 2024. The specific hosting schedule will be coordinated on an individual basis, taking into consideration the wishes of the relevant NU researchers and the like. NU researchers are allowed to return to their home country and re-enter Japan within the three-month period, but travel expenses will be subsidized for one round trip only. In addition, spending from the research activity support expenses is not permitted either.
- The Division of Research will procure a research space for the NU researcher on the host researcher's affiliated campus.
- NU researchers may receive support provided by the Division of Research on matters related to establishing a living infrastructure for their stay in Japan, such as securing housing, consultation about daily life, and medical interpretation.

8. Application Method

Submit the following three prescribed application documents by e-mail to the submission address below:

- (1) Application Form
- (2) Host Researcher's Achievement Report (Data output from the list of research achievements (books, papers, research presentations, etc.) for the past five years from the Researcher Database)
- (3) NU Researcher's CV/Achievement Report (free format)

Submission deadline: Noon on Monday, July 31, 2023

Submissions and inquiries: aji-res@st.ritsumei.ac.jp, Nakagawa (Ms.), RARA Office, Division of Research

- There are no restrictions on the research topics for applications or the areas of expertise of the NU researchers.
- For consultation regarding matching with NU researchers, please contact the RARA Office above. The NU Buffett Institute for Global Affairs and the Asia-Japan Research Institute will make coordination.

9. Application/Screening Schedule (tentative)

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|--|---|
| Application period | Between Monday, June 26 and Noon on Monday, July 31, 2023 |
| Document screening | Between Tuesday, August 1 and Friday, September 1, 2023 |
| Notification of Adoption or Rejection | Thursday, September 7, 2023 |
| Report to the Committee on Research Administration | Friday, September 22, 2023 |

The initial application period will be from Monday, June 26 until noon on Monday, July 31, 2023, with applications to be accepted as required thereafter. Due to budget constraints, however, the program may be terminated in the middle of the academic year.