

Research Proposal Contest Entry Guidelines~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 apply 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 accumulate his/her achievement.

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 accepts 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 aggressively apply for the JSPS after this contest and being selected as JSPS.

Objective

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

Qualification Requirements

Graduate students who are currently enrolled in regular programs at Ritsumeikan University are eligible to apply (Those who are taking a leave of absence cannot apply).

Field of Study

Humanities and Social Science / Science and Engineering

Application Period

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 - Friday, October 13, 2023 by 5:00 p.m.

How to apply for

Prepare Research Proposal Contest Entry Form and change the file to PDF. Click the URL below and submit the PDF data.

<https://cw.ritsumei.ac.jp/campusweb/SVA20D0.html?key=SUR20230721181740734746676>

Announcement of Results

Mid-November, 2023. The results will be announced through manaba+R.

Regardless of the examination result, to participate in the awards ceremony is mandatory.

Awards Ceremony

Thursday, November 16, 2023 from 12:20 to 12:50 Held online

It is scheduled that the Award recipients will make a presentation of their research proposal at Rice Ball Seminar.

Awards

Grand prize	– 2 students (1 for each field) (Certificate & Amazon gift card ¥50,000)
Excellence award	– 4 students (2 for each field) (Certificate & Amazon gift card ¥20,000)
Fighting-spirit award	– 6 students (3 for each field) (Certificate & Amazon gift card ¥5,000)

Application Guidelines

Application

- (1) Only one application per person is accepted. (Joint research is not accepted.)
- (2) Applications must be made by the applicants.
- (3) Applicants who have applied before cannot apply with the same research proposal. The contents this time must be improved by reflecting the research progress and status until now.
- (4) Entry Form submitted will not be returned. Please ensure that you make copies of all documents by yourself.
- (5) Applications that do not meet the requirements or do not abide by the rules for submission will be excluded.
- (6) If any falsehood 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 RARA Office if you have a visual or hearing disability and have difficulty in indicating by figures.

How to create Entry Form

- (1) Download the Entry Form from the website of the Graduate Students Career Path Support Center. Please make sure to create your Entry Form by using the prescribed form for this contest and type. 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. To add papers beyond the specified limit is not allowed.

Forms can be downloaded here:

http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/g-career/eng/program/article.html?id=389

- (2) Use diagrams (graphs, charts or other methods) and colors which are easy to identify to provide a general outline of your research in “1. Research outline diagram” box (Page 2 of the Entry Form).

Refer to the diagrams of the awardees in the past:

AY 2022	https://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/g-career/news/article.html?id=316
AY 2021	http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/g-career/news/article.html?id=296
AY 2020	http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/g-career/news/article.html?id=275
AY 2019	http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/g-career/news/article.html?id=261
AY 2018	http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/g-career/news/article.html?id=226

- (3) Create your Entry Form by using a computer.
- (4) Entry Form 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 Entry Form must be submitted in PDF format.

Evaluation

Criteria

The following 7 examination items will be examined from the perspectives of examination criteria ① Consistency of argument and format, ② Readability and clarity of explanation, ③ Creativity, ④ Concreteness of research plan/proposal, and ⑤ Ability to execute research.

(1) Research outline diagram

Whether Research outline diagram keeps the main points of the proposal and explains the content clearly and attractively.

(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/contents

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 Plan

Research Plan from now till the applicant will complete his/her program will be evaluated in consideration

of applicants' courses and grades.

(6) **Ability to execute research**

The basis of explaining the research tasks feasibility will be evaluated in consideration of applicants' courses and grades.

(7) **Motivation for becoming a researcher, image of a researcher in the future, strength points**

Evaluate applicant's motivation for becoming a researcher, intended image of a researcher and his/her strength points.

Examination Method

- (1) Entry Forms will be examined by a screening committee established by the Graduate Student Career Path Support Center.
- (2) If any falsehood 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.

To apply for JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists

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

Friday, October 13, 2023 by 5:00 p.m.	Deadline
Mid-November, 2023	Announcement of Results (with feedback)
Thursday, November 16, 2023 from 12:20 to 12:50 Held online	Awards Ceremony of Research Proposal Contest (Rice Ball Seminar)
Around February, 2024	Application for 2024 JSPS Research Fellowships for Young Scientists will be disclosed
Early in April, 2024	Application Guidance and Seminar for JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists

※ About JSPS http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/ru_gr/g-career/fellow/doctor/article.html/?id=39

(Contact) RARA Office at Suzaku Campus, Staff for JSPS

Email : grad-sch@st.ritsumei.ac.jp Telephone : 075-813-8560

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), graduate 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 during the Graduate School Week, Grand Prize Winners of liberal arts and science courses (*) will be scheduled to present their researches as representatives. However, there is a possibility to change it. The details will be informed after it is decided.

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

Contact and Inquiries

RARA Office (Yamasuge)

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