

J-RAPID Collaborative Research/Survey Program for Urgent Research on the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

April 24, 2020
Department of International Affairs

Outline

The Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) is implementing a funding mechanism for international collaborative research on the theme of the new coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and current pandemic as part of its J-RAPID program. In this mechanism, funding is envisaged for researchers who are currently in collaboration with or anticipate collaboration with researchers whom are funded or anticipate to be funded by eligible foreign funding agencies, such as through the RAPID program of the National Science Foundation (NSF) of the United States, for research directly applicable to mitigation of the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak.

Details will be announced on the JST website shortly (in Japanese):
https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/program/announce/announce_rapid_7th.html

Reference: List of NSF RAPID-supported projects:
<https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/simpleSearchResult?queryText=COVID+AND+RAPID&ActiveAwards=true>

Scope

This program welcomes non-medical research related to the prevention and mitigation of effects of the COVID-19 pandemic conducted jointly with researchers supported by eligible foreign funding agencies. Japanese-based researchers must either currently collaborate with, or anticipate to collaborate with, researchers based in foreign research institutions supported by eligible foreign funding agencies.

Note: Strictly medical research is ineligible for funding through this program. For national medical research funding, please instead refer to the Japan Agency for Medical Research and Development (AMED).

Eligibility

Funding is available to researchers affiliated with universities, research institutions, corporations and other eligible entities based in Japan.

Points of note

Japan-based researchers should have established a mutual intention to collaborate with researchers whom are currently applying for or already receiving research funding by an eligible foreign funding agency prior to applying for funding through the J-RAPID program.

Please note that if the foreign-based research partner is not receiving research funding support from a funding agency in that country, such as in cases where an application for funding was unsuccessful, the Japanese-side proposal will be deemed ineligible.

Researchers selected for research funding through the J-RAPID program are expected to responsibly comply with the relevant procedures and carry out the proposed research in line with the submitted proposal.

Forms of support

Each successful proposal funded under the J-RAPID program will sign a contract with JST and be awarded between 3 to 6 million Japanese yen, including 10% indirect costs, to cover a research period ranging from six months to one year. The amount of funding awarded is determined based on an assessment of the content of the proposed research, including budgetary requirements, as well as the total number of awarded projects in the program.

Schedule

Proposals will be accepted following an official announcement in April 24th, after which eligible submitted proposals will be evaluated in the order of their arrival. The deadline is noon on May 21st, Japan time. Successful proposals are anticipated to receive funding shortly after being selected. The funding period is expected to finish by the end of the 2020 Japanese fiscal year.

Previous mechanisms

Please refer to the following link for information about previously implemented J-RAPID funding mechanisms: https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/english/program_e/j-rapid_e/j-rapid.html

Prior notification of intention to apply

Researchers who are intending to apply for funding through the J-RAPID program should contact JST with the below information as early as possible.

Note: For the purpose of communication with foreign funding agencies, please provide equivalent information in English to the extent possible.

1. Japan-based researcher affiliation (university, etc.)
2. Japan-based researcher name
3. Japan-based researcher contact details (email address)
4. Foreign-based partner researcher affiliation (university, etc.)
5. Foreign-based partner researcher name
6. Research project title (provisional)
7. Research project outline
8. Foreign-based researcher funded project title
9. Foreign-based researcher project funding award status (awarded, not yet awarded)
10. (If not yet awarded, month of expected funding award result)

11. NSF award number (if NSF-funded)
12. Foreign-based partner researcher funding agency title (if not NSF-funded)
13. Foreign-based partner researcher call for proposals website (if not NSF-funded)

Inquiries

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