

Open positions for RCIES Research Fellow, SOKENDAI

The Research Center for Integrated Evolutionary Science (RCIES) invites applications for one research fellow position(s) at a post-doctor level.

Details of the program

RCIES has established the "RCIES Research Fellowship Program" to help young researchers pursuing independent research across a diverse array of academic fields covered by the Center, without restricting their areas of specialization. Successful applicant(s) are expected to conduct their research based on their own ideas, with support from the Center's faculty members closely aligned with their expertise (hereinafter referred to as "Cooperative faculty"). Our objective is to nurture researchers who demonstrate high levels of creativity and are actively engaged on the international stage.

Area of Specialization

Research areas align with the specializations of the Center's faculty members, with a particular emphasis on evolutionary biology and/or science, technology, and society (STS). For detailed information regarding the expertise of the Center's faculty members, please refer to the Center's website: https://rcies.soken.ac.jp/index_en.html.

Job Description

Successful applicant(s) are asked to independently lead their original research at the Center. In addition, they are expected to participate in and play an active role in the Center's academic activities.

Scope of Change : No change

Eligibility

The applicant must hold a doctoral degree at the time of appointment. Applicants should have no difficulty communicating in Japanese or English. Successful applicant(s) are expected to conduct unique and outstanding research primarily at the Center, closely cooperating with the Center's faculties. For this reason, the applicants must have consulted with at least one faculty member at the Center regarding their research plans and obtained consent to become a Cooperative faculty member. Cooperation with more than one faculty member is also acceptable. If you are unable to identify a suitable faculty member to cooperate, please feel free to inquire.

Starting date

As soon as possible after April 2026 (flexible, to be discussed).

Terms of Contract

From April 1, 2026 to March 31, 2027

*In principle, the contract is renewed on a yearly basis. The contract may be renewed up to March 31, 2029. The decision on renewal and length of contract will be made based on comprehensive consideration of the need for renewal, budget status, and the individual's performance prior to the renewal.

Work Location

SOKENDAI, Hayama campus

Scope of Change : No change

Salary and Benefits

Working hours: Discretionary Labor System for Professional work system applies and working hours will be deemed as 7 hours and 45 minutes per day.

Days off: Saturdays, Sundays, Holidays, and the year-end and New year holidays (Dec. 29th through Jan, 3rd)

Leave: Paid vacation system applies

Salary and fringe benefits: Annual salary system will apply. The approximate monthly salary is 300,000 JPY.

Social insurance: Health insurance, Welfare pension, Employment insurance, and Workers' compensation insurance.

Probationary Period: 6 months from the first day of employment

Other employment conditions are in accordance with the SOKENDAI regulations

Successful applicant(s) will receive grant, and will be eligible to apply for the MEXT Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (*Kakenhi*).

Required Documents and Selection Process

1. **Cover Letter:** Please include the following information: Applicant's name, current position, the names, affiliations, and the name of contact information (e-mail) of two references, and the name of the faculty member at RCIES you would like to collaborate. Please also include any communications regarding the timing of the job start or any other considerations.
2. **Curriculum vitae in any format:** Please include academic background, employment history, awards and penalties, a list of accomplishments, and a list of external funds obtained.
3. **Research accomplishments:** Up to one page on A4-size document.
4. **Research plans:** Up to two pages on A4-size document.
5. Up to 5 copies of representative publications
6. Other information that may be relevant in the selection process (optional).

Applicant himself/herself has to send the required documents as an attachment pdf to the following e-mail address: rcies_jinji@soken.ac.jp.

*The attachment size is limited to 10 MB. If sending more than 10MB files is unavoidable, split the file and send it as multiple e-mails, or use a file transfer service.

After reviewing the application documents, candidates will be invited to an interview as needed.

Application deadline

February 24th, 2026, 12:00 Noon JST

Measures to prevent passive smoking:

Smoking is prohibited on the premises (available in designated outdoor smoking areas)

Employer

President of The Graduate University for Advanced Studies, SOKENDAI.

Contact

Professor Hideki Innan, Director

Research Center for Integrative Evolutionary Science, SOKENDAI (The Graduate University for Advanced Studies), “Shonan Village”, Hayama, Kanagawa 240-0193, Japan

e-mail: innan_hideki@soken.ac.jp

Send application to: rcies_jinji@soken.ac.jp

Note

- SOKENDAI consider the diversity of human resources by hiring researchers regardless of gender, age, nationality, etc. If the applicants are equally qualified in terms of performance and personality evaluation, those applicants mentioned above will be given preference.
- Application details shall be kept strictly confidential and application documents shall not be used for any purpose other than the selection. Application documents will not be returned and will be disposed after selection.
- If there is any false information regarding the history of disciplinary action, etc., employment may be revoked.
- Considering the environmental safety of the surrounding area, we are not allowed to keep experimental mammals (rats, mice, rabbits etc.) and to use radioisotopes on the Hayama campus.