FY 2024 (Reiwa 6)
Academic Research Grant Application Guide

[Ordinary Quota]

September 1, 2023

Hyogo Science and Technology Association
https://hyogosta.jp

Academic Research Grant Project

【About Academic Research Grants for FY 2024 (Reiwa 6)】

Since its inception as a core organization responsible for promoting science and technology in Hyogo Prefecture, the Hyogo Science and Technology Association (HyogoSTA) has been providing financial grants to researchers and engineers that either work or reside in the Prefecture and are engaged in wide-ranging scientific and technological endeavors.

For FY 2024, HyogoSTA is again offering funding to various research activities — ranging from creative and exploratory projects run by young up-and-coming researchers to fundamental and basic research as well as applied and practical research initiatives that will facilitate the industrial evolution — all with a view toward further advancing science and technology in the Prefecture.

HyogoSTA will be accepting research plans from a diverse range of projects, including ones that will be using SPring-8 and the SACLA X-ray Free Electron Laser Facility, the Fugaku Supercomputer, the FOCUS Supercomputer, and other state-of-the-art research facilities and resources that are available in the Prefecture. HyogoSTA will also actively solicit applications from researchers and engineers that are employees of universities, research institutions, business corporations, etc.

I   Overview
1. Eligibility
Researchers and engineers (for group research, the principal researcher) working or residing in Hyogo Prefecture and who have permission from their employer(s) to conduct the research in question.

  *The employer of the applicant must also issue its written approval on the application.
  *Once the grant is approved, it is the employer's responsibility to record and manage all revenue and expenses related to the grant.
  *These conditions must be met for the duration of the grant period.

*Students enrolled at research institutes such as universities outside Hyogo Prefecture as of the date of application may apply if they plan to transfer to Hyogo Prefecture by April 1 of the grant year.

*In principle, those who have received this grant for the same research topic within the past three years (after FY 2021) are not eligible.

2. Eligible research projects

Eligible projects are those engaging in research and development on the topics that are related to daily living – such as health, welfare, the environment, safety, food, etc. – or in fundamental research and development on the topics that concern the industries – such as materials, information, energy, life, etc. Research topics must be either original and have potential for development or must be aimed at creating unique and novel technologies, discovering and elucidating novel phenomena, or developing novel principles and theories with a realistic chance of success.

3. Classification of disciplinary divisions and eligible fields

Classification of disciplinary divisions	Eligible Field
Medical/Pharmaceutics /Nursing （KAKENHI Broad Section H,I）	Basic medicine, clinical medicine, pharmaceutics, nursing, sports and health sciences, human medical engineering, etc.
Life Sciences/Agricultural Sciences （KAKENHI Broad Section F,G）	Agricultural science, agricultural chemistry, veterinary and animal science, molecular biology, developmental biology, cell biology, genetics, neuroscience, etc.
Physical Sciences （KAKENHI Broad Section B,E）	Mathematics, physics, space and earth science, plasma science, organic chemistry, inorganic chemistry, physical chemistry, polymer chemistry, biomolecular chemistry, etc.

Engineering/Information /Interdisciplinary Studies （KAKENHI Broad Section C,D,J,K）	Electrical and electronic engineering, materials engineering, chemical engineering, applied physics, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, architecture, measurement and control engineering, robotics, resource and energy engineering, information science (engineering), disaster prevention engineering, etc.

*Applications will be reviewed for each of the four classified disciplinary divisions as indicated above.

4. Amount:　up to 1 million yen/grant
5. Eligible expenses：Equipment and supplies, Consumables, Borrowing and loss expenses and Rental fees, Documentation expenses, Printing expenses, Travel expenses, Research cooperation honoraria, Communication and Transport fees, Other expenses deemed directly necessary for the research
6. Grant period：April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025
　　　　　　　　※An extension of up to one year may be granted depending on progress.
7. Expected number of grants：approximately 33
8. Expected date of conferral：June, 2024 （planned）
　　　　　　　　※Conferred grant money should be managed at recipient's organization's office and clearly separated from other research funds to ensure proper management and use. All payments must be completed by March 31, 2025.

Ⅱ　Application Period
Friday, September 1 – Friday, October 13, 2023 （Applications must be received by October 13.）
Application forms should be submitted to HyogoSTA office (Project Division) by post.
*Applications may not be submitted in person. Please be sure to mail in your application by the deadline, allowing for the time required by the postal service.

Ⅲ   Application method and how to fill out the application form

(1) Enter the necessary information in the application form using Microsoft Word or another similar software program (no handwriting allowed). You may also insert any photo or figure as you see fit. While you may prepare your application either in black-and-white or in color, its copies will be distributed to the reviewers in black-and-white. We only accept one application per applicant during each FY.
*The application form can be downloaded from the HyogoSTA website.
→FY 2024 Application Form (Word)
*The form has been changed, so please only use this year's form.

(2) Submit two copies (one original and one duplicate) of the application form by post, printed on one side and fastened using paper clips.

(3) In the "Research Topic" section, describe the details of your research clearly and concisely within 20 words.
Include a subtitle if the research cannot be described within 20 words.

(4) In the "Field of Research Topic" section, please select and enter the five-digit code, along with its name, that best matches your topic from among the Basic Section codes provided in the Review Section Table of the KAKENHI Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research. Then enter the single alphabet-character Broad Section code that covers the Basic Section code you have selected, and enter a circle (○) over the disciplinary division to which the Broad Section belongs.
＊Submitted research topics will be reviewed based on the classified disciplinary divisions.
＊The KAKENHI Review Section Table is available on the HyogoSTA website.
→(Reference) KAKENHI Review Section Table

(5) In the "Plan for Use of Grant Funds" section, list the cost of purchasing items needed for the research and amount needed for promoting the research.

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│ 【Eligible expenses】   │
│ 1.Equipment and supplies 2.Consumables 3.Borrowing and loss │
│ expenses, Rental fees 4.Documentation expenses 5.Printing │
│ expenses 6.Travel expenses 7.Research cooperation honoraria │
│ 8.Communication and Transport fees 9.Other expenses deemed │
│ directly necessary for the research   │
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* If you research plan entails any equipment and supplies expenses, state the name of each item in the form. For the rest of the expenses, state which of the eligible expenses each item is in the form before adding them up.

(6) Summary of Research Plan (Part 1): In the "Summary of Application" section, summarize your application clearly in 120 words max. three keywords.

(7) Summary of Research Plan (Part 2): The "3. Research Schedule" should be listed as April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025.

(8) Summary of Research Plan (Part 3): In the "Summary of Research Experience" section, list major research papers, etc. published by the applicant (a representative, for group research) since 2019, starting with the most recent paper, and moving in reverse chronological order by publication date.

Ⅳ Screening

(1) Screening schedule

First round: November 2023 – end of January 2024
Second round: January 2024 – end of February 2024

(2) Screening process

First round: for each of the four fields to which the research topics belong, a review board consisting of leaders in the corresponding field will select and recommend candidates for the second round.

Second round: a committee of industry, academic, and government experts will comprehensively review the topics recommended by the review board in the first round and select the final recipients.

(3) Screening criteria

Submitted research projects will be judged comprehensively based on the following criteria.

・clarity of purpose and objectives

・innovativeness and originality

・potential for future development

・need for funding　　　　　　　and other factors

V　Notification of Results

Applicants will be notified in writing around the beginning of March 2024.

VI　Report and Patents

(1) **In principle, a performance report (e.g., a progress report, a financial report, etc.) should be submitted by Thursday, April 10, 2025, after the end of the year in question.**
If the report remains unsubmitted without a valid reason, the decision to confer the grant may be rescinded and a refund of the grant requested.

(2) Progress reports will be published on the HyogoSTA's website. (https://hyogosta.jp).

(3) Applicants may file patent or utility model applications, but are required to report the details thereof to HyogoSTA.

VII Other

(1) Application forms will not be used for any purpose other than screening, and the contents thereof will be kept strictly confidential.

(2) Application materials will not be returned regardless of whether the application is approved or rejected.

(3) Information of the selected projects (names, organizations, positions, research themes to be funded by the grants, etc.) will be announced to the press, as well as published on the HyogoSTA's website, project reports, association bulletins, and presentation ceremony materials.

（４）If you are selected as a research grant recipient, you will be asked to attend a grant presentation ceremony which HyogoSTA is planning to hold. HyogoSTA will also host a research presentation session along with the grant presentation ceremony, where one grant recipient from each classified disciplinary division will be asked to give a presentation on its research project.

(5) Applicants will be asked to participate in a follow-up survey (questionnaire) spread over three sessions after the end of the grant period.

〖**For Inquiries or to Submit Application Forms**〗
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