

First Call for the JWRI Dojo Program 2025 Applications
The Joining and Welding Research Institute, The University of Osaka
Application Guidelines

1. Purpose

JWRI Dojo Program was established to: invite individuals with high academic/research capabilities from abroad to study cutting-edge joining and welding technologies at the Joining and Welding Research Institute (JWRI) of the University of Osaka and train them to develop an innovative and international mindset backed by the spirit of *monozukuri*, or Japan's proud tradition of manufacturing; and to encourage exchanges among students and personnel of the JWRI and foreign universities and institutions.

The program also offers financial aid to individuals with high academic/research capabilities to encourage them to enroll in the regular program and conduct research at the University of Osaka.

2. Conditions for participation

To participate in the JWRI Dojo Program, the following conditions should be met:

- Be enrolled at the JWRI either as a special research student or as a research student during the program period.
- Remain enrolled at the JWRI for at least 91 days, including May 1st.
- Acquire a student visa to study in Japan.
- Take out the National Health Insurance and the Disaster and Accident Insurance for Student Education and Research (*Gakkensai*) after arrival in Japan.

3. Qualifications for participation and content of the program

- (1) Special research students are foreign graduate students who wish to conduct research on a cutting-edge theme in a laboratory of one of the departments of the JWRI under the guidance of an academic advisor in charge, while remaining enrolled at their home graduate schools.

Special research students are required to:

- Select an academic advisor from among the academic staff of a division of one of the departments of the JWRI shown in the following website, draw up a detailed research plan, and conduct research according to the plan during the program period.
<http://www.jwri.osaka-u.ac.jp/research/index.html>
- Submit a report to the academic advisor of the JWRI and the supervisor of the home graduate school upon completion of the program.
- Make a presentation on the progress of research at a presentation session or research meeting at least every three months during the program period.

- (2) Research students are individuals who have or will have graduated from a university by the time the program begins or individuals with academic capabilities at least equivalent to those of a university graduate, who are recognized as having research capabilities, and who wish to advance to the master's and doctoral degree programs of the Graduate School of Engineering of the University of Osaka. Research students will conduct research on a cutting-edge theme in a laboratory of one of the departments of the JWRI under the guidance of an academic advisor in charge.

Research students are required to:

- Select an academic advisor from among the academic staff of a division of one of the departments of the JWRI shown in the following website, draw up a detailed research plan, and conduct research according to the plan during the program period.
<http://www.jwri.osaka-u.ac.jp/research/index.html>
- Submit a report to the academic advisor of the JWRI upon completion of the program.
- Make a presentation on the progress of research at a presentation session or research meeting at least every three months during the program period.

4. Program period

- Individuals accepted for the JWRI Dojo Program should begin research under the program between October 1st, 2025 and May 1st, 2026, and should have been enrolled at the JWRI as a special research student or a research student by the time the program begins.
- The program period should be at least 91 days and no more than one year, and include May 1st. The period may span two fiscal years. (A fiscal year starts in April and ends in March of the following year.)
- Program participants can remain enrolled at the JWRI for a period exceeding one year as a special research student or research student; however, they must apply for the JWRI Dojo Program anew if they are to continue to receive financial aid.

5. Quota

For the first call, about seven applicants will be accepted in total, either as special research students or as research students.

*The second call for applications is scheduled for September. However, in case the number of successful applicants reaches the number of openings in the current call, the second recruitment will not be conducted.

6. Payment

Program participants should pay the following fees; however, those who have met certain conditions will be offered financial aid stated in Section 7 below.

(1) Special research student: Tuition fee* (28,900 yen per month)

(2) Research student: Application fee (9,800 yen), enrollment fee (84,600 yen), and tuition fee* (28,900 yen per month)

*The annual tuition fee should be paid biannually (for the October-March period and for the April-September period) after enrollment, in the amount of 28,900 yen per month multiplied by the number of months enrolled.

Note that in addition to the above, participants should bear the cost of traveling to and from Japan and living in Japan (“Travel and Living Expenses”), which may be covered by the financial aid stated in Section 7 if certain conditions are met.

7. Financial aid

The JWRI will offer financial aid as a grant to cover expenses needed to participate in the program to the program participants who have met certain conditions. Student categorization for the purpose of financial aid is as shown in the table below. (An upper limit is set for the total grant amount.)

Notes:

- The upper limit of the total grant amount offered during the program period is 500,000 yen. This means that even during the program period, financial aid will terminate when the amount reaches the upper limit.
- While the grant that covers monthly tuition fee and Living Expenses is provided on a monthly basis, program participants are required to pay the tuition fee biannually.

(1) Special research student

Coverage Category	Application fee	Enrollment fee	Tuition fee (monthly amount)	Travel Expenses	Living Expenses (monthly amount)
A. Special research student accepted by the Chinese Government Graduate Student Overseas Study Program			28,900 yen		
B. Student sponsored by a foreign or the Japanese government or a foundation including the home university/institution			(28,900 yen)	(Actual amount paid)	(70,000 yen)
C. Student of a university/institution that is a party to an inter-departmental agreement under the student exchange agreement with the JWRI under which payment of tuition fees is waived				Actual amount paid	70,000 yen
D. Others			28,900 yen	Actual amount paid	70,000 yen

- The amount in () is provided only if it is not covered by the financial aid offered by the government, foundation or other institution.
- The upper limit of the total grant amount offered during the program period is 500,000 yen. This means that even during the program period, financial aid terminates when the amount reaches the upper limit.
- Travel Expenses are provided pursuant to the Travel Expense Regulations and other related regulations of the University of Osaka to cover the following expenses actually incurred, provided, however, that if a program participant is to remain in Japan after the program period in order to continue to study at a Japanese school or work in Japan or for any other purposes, he or she is not eligible to receive financial aid to cover the expenses of temporarily returning to the home country after the program is over.
 - (1) Travel Expenses to cover a low airfare: from the international airport nearest to the program participant's place of residence to the international airport in Japan used by the University of Osaka staff for regular trips; and from the international airport in Japan used by the University of Osaka staff for regular trips to the international airport nearest to the program participant's destination
 - (2) Miscellaneous travel expenses to cover the total amount of entry and departure taxes and passenger service facility charges

(2) Research student

Category \ Coverage	Application fee	Enrollment fee	Tuition fee (monthly amount)	Travel Expenses	Living Expenses (monthly amount)
E. Student sponsored by a foreign or the Japanese government or a foundation including the home university/institution	(9,800 yen)	(84,600 yen)	(28,900 yen)	(Actual amount paid)	(70,000 yen)
F. Others	9,800 yen	84,600 yen	28,900 yen	Actual amount paid	70,000 yen

- The amount in () is provided only if it is not covered by the financial aid offered by the government, foundation or other institution.
- The application fee is reimbursed as part of the grant after the program starts.
- The upper limit of the total grant amount offered during the program period is 500,000 yen. This means that even during the program period, financial aid terminates when the amount reaches the upper limit.
- If a program participant is accepted for enrollment at the Graduate School of Engineering of the University of Osaka after the program is over, he or she is eligible for financial aid covering the tuition fee until one month prior to enrollment.
- Travel Expenses are provided pursuant to the Travel Expense Regulations and other related regulations of the University of Osaka to cover the following expenses actually incurred, provided, however, that if a program participant is to remain in Japan after the program period in order to continue to study at a Japanese school or work in Japan or for any other purposes, he or she is not eligible to receive financial aid to cover the expenses of temporarily returning to the home country after the program is over.
 - (1) Travel Expenses to cover a low airfare: from the international airport nearest to the program participant's place of residence to the international airport in Japan used by the University of Osaka staff for regular trips; and from the international airport in Japan used by the University of Osaka staff for regular trips to the international airport nearest to the program participant's destination
 - (2) Miscellaneous travel expenses to cover the total amount of entry and departure taxes and passenger service facility charges

8. Application documents *Any documents submitted at the time of application will not be returned.

*Except for (4), (5) and (10), PDF files are acceptable.

(1) Application for Admission as a Special Research Student/Research Student (Form 1)

(2) Research plan written on an A4 sheet

(3) Resume (Form 2)

(4) Graduate certificate/Certificate of expected graduation issued by the school last attended (or a copy of diploma)

*It must be the original document written in Japanese or English

(5) Transcript

*It must be the original document written in Japanese or English

(6) Letter of Guarantee (Form 3)

(7) Copies of the passport pages showing the applicant's photo and status of residence

*A copy of the status of residence page should be submitted after the applicant is accepted as a candidate participant in the JWRI Dojo Program and granted a status of residence upon arrival in Japan.

*If the applicant does not have a passport, the copies can be submitted after the acceptance as a candidate participant.

(8) An applicant who falls under categories A, B, or E shown in the Section 7 of the above table is also required to submit a copy of a document that verifies his/her status as a recipient of the financial aid and to provide a description of the financial aid. If the document is written in a language other than English, its English version or English translation should be attached.

(9) Letter of recommendation issued by the supervisor of the applicant's home university/institution

*If the applicant is not currently affiliated anywhere, the supervisor of the most recent affiliation should issue one.

(10) Research Description/Certificate of Acceptance (Form 4 in Japanese) *It must be the original document.

Before applying for the JWRI Dojo Program, each applicant should obtain the informal consent of the academic advisor of the JWRI who will accept him or her at the laboratory, and ask the academic advisor to fill in this form. This form may be submitted by the academic advisor directly to the General Affairs Unit of the JWRI.

(11) [Research Students only] Copy of an application fee receipt

Refer to the attachment titled "Payment of Application Fee." Note that the application fee should be paid before submitting the application documents.

9. Submission deadline

Friday, August 22nd, 2025 (Application documents must be received by the JWRI by this date.)

10. Where to submit application documents and direct inquiries

(1) Where to submit application documents

Application documents should be sent to the following address by the deadline indicated in 9.:

The General Affairs Unit, Joining and Welding Research Institute, The University of Osaka
11-1 Mihogaoka, Ibaraki, Osaka 567-0047, Japan

(2) How to submit

Regarding the application documents indicated in 8., (1) – (3) and (6) – (9) and (11) may be submitted as PDF files via e-mail, whereas (4), (5) and (10) must be submitted via postal mail, as we need their original documents.

(3) Where to direct inquiries

The General Affairs Unit, Joining and Welding Research Institute, The University of Osaka
Email: setugouken-syomu@office.osaka-u.ac.jp

11. Screening method

Applicants are screened based on application documents submitted.

12. Announcement of screening results

Each applicant will be informed of the screening result by the academic advisor via email around the end of September.

13. Enrollment procedures

Successful applicants should complete the following enrollment procedures before coming to Japan. Details about these procedures and other necessary procedures will be informed together with the screening result.

(1) Payment of enrollment fee (research students only)

The Accountant Unit of the JWRI will distribute bank transfer request forms to the host laboratories at least one month prior to the enrollment date. Research students are required to pay the enrollment fee using this form by the day prior to the enrollment date.

(2) Application for a student visa

Successful applicants should complete the procedures to apply for the Certificate of Eligibility for Status of Residence (CESR), which is necessary to obtain a student visa, by themselves as promptly as possible, but within about one week after the screening result is informed. Application should be made online on the following website.

<https://www.osaka-u.ac.jp/en/international/inbound/support/support-office/Certificate-of-Eligibility-CoE-and-Visa>