

**Application Guidelines for
Special (Young) Research Fellows in “Leading-Edge Urban Studies”,
Osaka Metropolitan University
(First term, FY2025)**

Urban Resilience Research Center (UReC), Osaka Metropolitan University is certified as one of the Joint Usage/Research Centers by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology under the name of the Platform for “Leading-edge Urban Studies.” In this connection, the center has appointed a number of qualified young researchers as Special (Young) Research Fellows in Leading-Edge Urban Studies, aiming at supporting their proactive and global standard research activities. This is to invite applications for positions opened toward the new fiscal year.

1. Types and number of positions

A) Paid and also allowed for research expenses: one person only

B) Only allowed for research expenses: a few persons

2. Research activities

- 1) Special (Young) Research Fellows in Leading-Edge Urban Studies will carry out an independent research project on a topic closely connected to the “host research projects”, under the guidance of one of the “host researchers”, who chair or participate in the projects and are affiliated with the Platform for Leading-Edge Urban Studies. Applicants should consult the appendix to write their application.
- 2) The project period is one year, starts on May 1st, 2025, and expires on Mar. 31st, 2026. Applicants are required to design their research plans that will be able to be implemented within this time span.
- 3) Appointees must report the latest development in their own research project at meetings held twice a year for a joint review. They are also expected to actively take part in planning and running other collaborative research activities such as seminars and workshops conducted by the Platform for Leading-Edge Urban Studies.
- 4) Appointees will be supplied with research funds; the amounts will be assessed in accordance with their one-year research plans, after the UReC budget for the fiscal year has been approved. It should be noted that each applicant must design their research plan so that the prospective research expenses will not exceed JPY 200,000.
- 5) Research funds are disbursed in conformity with the rules of Osaka Metropolitan University.
- 6) “Research and budget result reports” must be submitted at the end of the project period.
- 7) Working conditions of the paid position (Type A) are as follows (as of Jan. 2025, susceptible to amendments)
 - i. Paid only during the project period. The employment contract is not renewable.
 - ii. Workdays: any three voluntarily fixed weekdays a week, except for national and new year holidays. Working hours: 9:00-12:00 and 12:45-17:15.
 - iii. Under the employment regulations of Osaka Metropolitan University, the title of “Designated Researcher” is given and the following working conditions apply:
 - iv. Hourly wage: JPY 2,000 (Close at month-end, paid in the following month); Annual paid leaves in prescribed number of days.
 - v. Allowance: commuting allowance (no larger than JPY 55,000 a month) and semi-annual bonuses.
 - vi. Social insurance coverage: health, corporate employee’s pension and unemployment insurances.
- 8) The denomination “Special (Young) Research Fellows in Leading-Edge Urban Studies” may be changed.

3. Requirements for application

A) Paid and also allowed for research expenses

- Applicants must be researchers who are able to be devoted to research activities (i.e., have no duty to concentrate on their jobs in other organizations) and have obtained a doctorate.

B) Only allowed for research expenses

- Applicants must fit into one of the following three categories: i) Being enrolled in a doctoral course, ii) Having completed doctorate coursework and presently working on the doctoral thesis, or iii) Having obtained a doctorate.
- Those who have ever been appointed to either type in either UReC or the former Urban Research Plaza, Osaka City University, are not qualified to apply, except those to the type-B or non-paid position before receiving a doctorate but now having done so.

4. Requisite documents (Use prescribed formats https://www.omu.ac.jp/orp/urec_e/info/updates/entry-74372.html)

- 1) Special (Young) Research Fellows in Leading-Edge Urban Studies Application
 - 2) Letter of Recommendation Written by the Present Supervisor
 - 3) Letter of Acceptance Written by a “Host Researcher”
- Each applicant must choose one “host researcher” from the appendix and receive a letter of acceptance from them. A letter of recommendation from the present supervisor is required in addition. The prospective “host researcher” can be identical to the present supervisor.

5. Application Procedure

- 1) The abovementioned documents must arrive during the period from Feb. 20 (Thu.) to 5:00 p.m. on Mar. 5 (Wed.).
- 2) If you are to send them via mail or personal delivery, write “Special (Young) Research Fellows in Leading-Edge Urban Studies Application” in red and address as described below. The documents will not be returned to applicants.
- 3) If you are to submit them via email, attach the documents in a PDF format with the title “Special (Young) Research Fellows in Leading-Edge Urban Studies Application” and address as described below.

6. Selection Process

For those applicants who apply for Type A (paid and allowed for research expenses), applications will be screened by the URP Special Researchers Screening Committee in two stages: 1) Screening of the submitted documents, and 2) an oral interview.

Regarding the first stage, acceptance or rejection will be notified by Mar. 12 (Wed.). Successful candidates will be informed of details.

The oral interviews will be conducted online on Mar. 17 (Mon) in the morning. If any difficulty in meeting online, please give UReC a previous notice. Acceptance or rejection will be sent out by Mar. 24 (Mon.).

For those applicants who apply for Type B (only allowed for research expenses), acceptance or rejection will be known by Mar. 12 (Wed.) after a review of the submitted documents only.

Address for Inquiries and Submitting Application Forms

Office of the Platform for Leading-edge Urban Studies, Urban Resilience Research Center, Osaka Metropolitan University
Sugimoto 3-3-138, Sumiyoshi Ward, Osaka City, 558-8585 Japan

Tel: (+81)-06-6605-2071, Fax: (+81)-06-6605-2069, E-mail: urec-joint_office@ml.omu.ac.jp

Appendix: List of Host Research Projects and Host Researchers

No.	Host Research Project	Host Researcher
1	Transformation in the modern capitalism and cities	TATEMI Junya
2	Urban policies, administration and finance in super-aging and depopulating societies	ABE Masaki
3	Dialogue between East Asian cities toward recognition to cultural diversity and social inclusion	JEON Hong-gyu,
4	Multiethnic (cultural) symbiosis society and socially inclusive arts management	NAKAGAWA Shin
5	Clinical musicology research: building a place for dialogue in sound and words with people with and without learning difficulties	NUMATA Rii
6	Invention of a model of support to disabled people aiming at revitalization of multigenerational regional communities	UCHIDA Takashi
7	Revitalization of cities in a resilient way with the utilization of architectural stock: a study of row houses in Osaka and modern architecture	KANA Koichi
8	Disaster resilient communities and housing	IKUTA Eisuke
9	Division and Conflict: Structure of Discrimination	NOMURA Yasuyo