

Young Researchers' Exchange Programme between Japan and Switzerland 2021- FAQs

The present FAQs document serves the purpose to answer the questions you might have regarding the application process of the “Young Researchers' Exchange Programme” between Japan and Switzerland.

Please read carefully the FAQs and try to see whether your question has already been answered. Should you still have a question, or something might still be unclear, you can email Ms. Elise Nardin elise.nardin@sl.ethz.ch

For prospective outgoing fellows

I am interested in applying. Do I need to have any Japanese language skills?

Language skills are favorable but not a requirement.

I am interested in applying but I do not know how to locate a Japanese host supervisor. Does the Leading House Asia have a list of potential host supervisors I could consult?

The applicant is responsible in locating and securing her/his own host supervisor, the Leading House Asia does not provide any contacts of potential host supervisors.

What does 'early career researcher' mean? Is there an age limit to apply?

No, there is no age limit. The applicant has to be a doctoral student (with justification and on **an exceptional basis** Masters or post-doctoral students can be eligible) currently working in research groups at Swiss federal universities, cantonal universities, universities of applied sciences or public research institutes.

I am a doctoral student at a university of teachers' education, am I eligible to apply?

The call with Japan is not open to applicants of university of teachers' education.

I have already applied to the last call but I was not awarded a grant. Am I eligible to apply again?

As long as you meet the eligible requirements of the new call, you are allowed to apply.

In the application form, I have to suggest three possible reviewers that have not worked with me directly nor with my research group/supervisor. What does that mean?

The reviewers are experts in your research field and will review your application based on the review criteria. In order to prevent any conflict of interest on their end, they have to be independent from your research group. Ideally, they are located in Switzerland. In exceptional cases, they can be located abroad.

I have been awarded a fellowship to do a research stay in Japan, but due to COVID-19 restrictions, I have to postpone or cancel my stay. Who should I contact?

Please contact Ms. Elise Nardin elise.nardin@sl.ethz.ch.

I have been awarded a fellowship to do a research stay in Japan, how do I receive my grant?

Please refer to the specific call guidelines.

I have been awarded a fellowship to do a research stay in Japan, is my professor required to keep paying me my salary while I am away?

The fellowship is not a salary, it is a stipend. It is up to your supervisor to decide whether she/he would like to keep paying you your salary while you are away during your research stay.

I have been preparing my upcoming research stay in Japan, could you please put me in contact with any returning fellows?

The Leading House Asia has started organizing a buddy system between prospective outgoing fellows and returning fellows to exchange best practices and tips.

The Leading House Asia is not allowed to send lists of returning fellows but if you would like to be put in contact, the Leading House Asia will try to find a returning fellow who would accept to act as your buddy.

Do you have any testimonials of fellows who went on a research stay in Japan?

Yes, please read Irina Ritsch's experience in Kyoto [here](#).

Do I have to write a report after my research stay?

Yes, all fellows have to write a research report after their stay. Please refer to the call guidelines. All reporting forms are available for download on our website under 'Resources'.

For Swiss supervising hosts

I am hosting a fellow from Japan: what are the immigration requirements? Does the Leading House Asia support me in applying for a working visa?

The Swiss host and her/his fellow are responsible for taking care of all immigration matters. Please directly contact your cantonal immigration office to apply for a working visa for your visiting fellow.

I am hosting a Japanese fellow, but due to COVID-19 restrictions, he/she has to postpone or cancel his/her stay. Who should I contact?

Please contact Ms. Elise Nardin elise.nardin@sl.ethz.ch .

I am hosting a fellow from Japan, how high is the grant?

Please refer to the specific call guidelines.

Does my Japanese fellow have to write a report after her/his research stay under my supervision?

Yes, all fellows have to write a research report after their stay. Please refer to the call guidelines.

Miscellaneous

I have just missed an application deadline. When will you launch another call?

An overview of all the instruments offered by the Leading House Asia as well as the schedule of all planned calls will shortly be available on our website.

Do you have a newsletter I can subscribe to?

We do not have a newsletter, but you can contact Ms. Elise Nardin elise.nardin@sl.ethz.ch who will add you to the calls distribution list. Additionally, all of our calls are regularly published on our website.

Is there a Leading House for another continent?

You will find an overview of all Leading Houses on the State Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation (SERI) [website](#).