Ozaki Exchange Program 2027 – Application Guidelines
(For Graduate Students in Japan)

In honor of the late Dr. Satoshi Ozaki, who made significant contributions to particle physics research between Japan and the United States, the U.S.-Japan Science and Technology Cooperation Program (High Energy Physics) has operated the "Ozaki Exchange Program" since 2018.
This program promotes the exchange of young researchers and provides opportunities for graduate students to gain international research experience.
We invite applications for the 2027 Ozaki Exchange Program. This guideline is for graduate students in Japan. For graduate students in United States, please refer to the following U.S. side web page.

https://www.bnl.gov/ozaki/

Interested students are encouraged to apply.

1. Purpose

The goals of this program are to strengthen U.S.-Japan scientific collaboration and in particular facilitate greater cooperation in the areas of accelerator and particle physics in projects of mutual benefit to Japan and the United States. The program supports exchanges of graduate students between Japan and the United States.
The program has two categories:

A. Summer Student Type

Participants take part in the short-term research program at a DOE laboratory. They gain experience in research topics and research environments different from those of their graduate studies.

B. Research Type

Applicants propose and conduct their own research projects using specialized facilities and equipment available at a DOE laboratory.
Research topics related to an applicant's current graduate research are eligible. However, the proposed project must not simply continue the applicant's current research. It must clearly develop or expand the research by introducing new perspectives, methods, research subjects, or other elements through participation in this program.

2. Program Categories

A. Summer Student Type

Applicants may select up to three programs offered by the following DOE laboratories, ranked in order of preference: ANL, BNL, FNAL, JLab, LBNL, and SLAC. For details of each laboratory's program, please refer to the application form.

Duration: Up to 10 weeks, within the period after notification of the selection results and ending on March 10, 2028. A stay of six weeks or longer is recommended.

B. Research Type

Applicants propose their own research projects and visit a DOE laboratory that has agreed in advance to host them.

Duration: Up to 9 months within the period after notification of the selection results and ending on March 10, 2028.

3. Eligibility

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Be enrolled at a graduate school in Japan as of April 2027.
- Be enrolled in a master's or doctoral program in physics or a related field.
- Students who are planning to enter graduate school at the time of application may also apply
- There are no nationality restrictions.

4. Requirements After Selection

Selected applicants must meet the following requirements before their research visit begins:

- Complete the research ethics education provided by their home institution, in accordance with the "Guidelines on Measures for the Prevention and Handling of Research Misconduct" adopted by the Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology on August 26, 2014.
- Their home institution must have submitted the checklist on measures under the "Guidelines on Measures for the Prevention and Handling of Research Misconduct" through the Cross-ministerial Research and Development Management System (e-Rad).

5. Research Areas

The program covers the following fields and related areas:

- High energy physics
- Accelerator science
- Beam science
- Other related fields

6. Host Laboratories

The host laboratories are national laboratories under the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE).

The main host laboratories are:

- Argonne National Laboratory (ANL)
- Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL)
- Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (FNAL)
- Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility (JLab)
- Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL)
- SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory (SLAC)

For the Research Type, other DOE laboratories that host U.S.-Japan High Energy Physics program may also be considered upon request.

7. Number of Awardees

A limited number of participants will be selected across the A. Summer Student Type and B. Research Type categories.

8. Financial Supports

Round-trip travel expenses and living expenses necessary for the research visit will be provided by KEK (High Energy Accelerator Research Organization) in accordance with KEK's travel regulations.

Round-trip Travel Expenses

- **Domestic transportation in Japan**: Public transportation expenses from the applicant's home to the nearest airport
- **Airfare**: Actual cost. A maximum amount may be set depending on the available budget.
- **Local transportation at the destination**: Additional payment will be provided if the total transportation expenses exceed the total daily allowance for the stay.

Living Expenses

- **Daily allowance:** JPY 3,000/day
- **Accommodation:** JPY 20,000/night
- **During domestic travel in Japan:** The daily allowance is JPY 1,000/day and the accommodation allowance is JPY 12,000/night.

The amount of living expenses paid varies depending on the length of the stay, as shown below.

Period of stay	Payment rate
Days 1–30	100%
Days 31–60	90%
Days 61–180	80%
Day 181 onward	60%

9. Required Documents

All documents must be prepared in English.

A. Summer Student Type

Applicants must submit the following documents.

- Application form: Use the designated form.
- Academic transcript.
- Proof of enrollment in a graduate program:

  A document confirming that the applicant will be enrolled in a graduate program as of April 2027.

  Applicants who have not yet enrolled at the time of application may submit a copy of their graduate school admission letter or a similar document.

- Letter of recommendation from academic supervisor:
  No prescribed format.
  Maximum length: 3 pages.

B. Research Type

Applicants must submit the following documents:

- Research proposal:
  No prescribed format
  Maximum length: 5 pages, excluding references.
  Applicants who are undergraduate students at the time of application should prepare their proposal in consultation with their prospective graduate-school supervisor.
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Academic transcript
- Proof of enrollment in a graduate program:
  A document confirming that the applicant will be enrolled in a graduate program as of April 2027.
  Applicants who have not yet enrolled at the time of application may submit a copy of their graduate school admission letter or similar document.
- Letter of recommendation from academic supervisor
  No prescribed format
  Maximum length: 3 pages
  The letter should describe the necessary expenses and the applicant's expected capabilities.
- Letter of recommendation from the host researcher
  No prescribed format
  Maximum length: 3 pages

10. Submission

Please submit your application documents by email to the following contact:

KEK International Affairs Division
E-mail: koryu1@mail.kek.jp / Phone: +81-(0)29-864-5132

11. Application Deadline

December 18th, 2026 (JST)

12. Selection Process

The selection process consists of the following stages.

(1) Japanese Screening

The Japanese screening consists of a document review and an interview.

Interview:

The interview is scheduled to take place online on Tuesday, January 12, 2027 (TBC). Applicants will be asked to give a presentation about their background and application, including their proposed research.

Presentation materials must be submitted to the contact listed in Section 10 by noon on Tuesday, January 5, 2027 (JST).

(2) U.S.-Japan Joint Review

After the Japanese screening is completed, a joint review will be conducted by representatives from Japan and the United States.

13. Notification of Results

The selection results are expected to be announced in early May 2027, following the U.S.-Japan Joint Committee meeting.

14. Final Report

Participants must submit a report describing their research activities and achievements within one month after the end of support period under this program. The report must be prepared in both Japanese and English. The Japanese report must use the format designated by KEK.

15. Contact Information

Questions About Hosting at DOE laboratories

- ANL: John Power <JP@anl.gov>
- BNL: Hong Ma <hma@bnl.gov>
- FNAL: Fumio Furuta <ffuruta@fnal.gov>
- JLab: Joe Grames <grames@jlab.org>
- LBNL: Tony Spadafora <alspadafora@lbl.gov>
- SLAC: John Seeman <seeman@slac.stanford.edu>

Questions About Application documents

KEK International Affairs Division

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