

Niigata University ‘Swing-by’ Program for Fostering Young Faculty Members (Recruitment and Training Program for Young Faculty Members)

Call for applications for /Assistant Professors in Brain Research Institute, Niigata University

Niigata University is implementing the "Niigata University Young Faculty Swing-by Program," a program for the collective recruitment and training of young faculty members, targeting outstanding young researchers who are active in a variety of fields in Japan and overseas. This program is designed to foster researchers who are willing to conduct cross-disciplinary research at the university while deepening their research in their respective fields of specialization.

In the Young Faculty Swing-by Program, we will recruit young faculty members from across disciplines. Recruits will be selected through a first round of selection based on their expertise in their respective fields, followed by a second round of selection based on comprehensive perspectives by the executive officers. The selected faculty members will be affiliated with the academic departments, etc., according to their fields of expertise, and will concurrently serve in the Institute for Research Administration, which is in charge of promoting research at Niigata University, and will be engaged in activities to bring forth the seeds of new interdisciplinary research that can become the new flagship of Niigata University.

Research Field for Recruitment

Environmental management, New fields of law(Intellectual Property Law), Corporate Finance, Agronomy, Urban planning and design, Chemical biology, Behavioral ecology, Life science(Virology, Social Psychiatry for Mothers and Children, Div of Bio-Tissue Engineering, Bioregulatory Science, radiological technology), Interdisciplinary Research on Brain Pathology

Number of Positions

Around 10 persons expected

As a part of this recruitment, we are recruiting faculty members in charge of the Interdisciplinary Research on Brain Pathology field.

1. Job Type

One Tenure-track Assistant Professor (A-five-year tenure. Not renewable after five years)

Based on a performance evaluation in the 4th year, those with excellent research performance may be offered a permanent full-time Assistant Professor position.

2. Expected Date of Joining

April 1, 2026

3. Affiliation

The selected candidate will be assigned to the department within Brain Research Institute where their mentor faculty member (a full-time or specially appointed professor affiliated with BRI) belongs.

While the primary focus will be on research, the selected candidate may also engage in teaching and other activities if deemed beneficial for their career development.

As a general rule, you will be working as a faculty member employed in the swing-by Program concurrently with the Institute for Research Administration for three years from the time of hiring.

4. Job Description

[Affiliation] Brain Research Institute

[Job Description]

1. Research

The selected candidate will conduct research using state-of-the-art technologies such as human brain 3D imaging, spatial transcriptome, and AI-based integrated analysis, making full use of the BRI's world-class brain resources. By integrating the BRI's strengths in pathology, physiology, and molecular function analysis with cutting-edge data science, the selected candidate will contribute to strengthening the research infrastructure aimed at overcoming neurodegenerative diseases and cerebrovascular disorders.

2. Education:

The selected candidate may be involved in educational activities that bridges data science and clinical neuroscience.

3. Outreach Activities

The selected candidate may be expected to participate in outreach activities, such as giving seminars and lectures to elementary, junior high, and high school students, as well as to members of the local community.

- * As a general rule, you will be working as a faculty member employed in the Swing-by Program concurrently with the Institute for Research Administration for three years from the time of hiring.

[Research Field] Interdisciplinary Research on Brain Pathology

[Note]

The selected candidate will initially work as a member of the research group, with the expectation of becoming an independent PI in the future.

5. Qualifications

(1) As a general rule, applicants should have obtained their PhD in the relevant field within the past five years, including those expected to obtain their degree by the appointment date.

(2) Individuals who aspire to become independent PIs and lead cutting-edge research in the future.

(3) Individuals who understand the objectives of the Swing-by Program and are committed to actively contributing.

(4) Individuals with a proven track record of cutting-edge research in their field of expertise or those who have consistently published academic papers.

(5) Individuals with experience receiving Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research and various other external funds.

(6) Those who are able to live in Niigata City or its suburbs, and carry out his/her duty after being hired.

6. Terms of Employment

(1) Work Location: Brain Research Institute, Niigata University (757 Asahimachidori 1-bancho, Chuo-ku, Niigata City, Niigata Prefecture, Japan)

(2) Salary: Annual salary system based on “Regulations for New Annual Salary System for Faculties of Niigata University,” and other benefits as per the University rules and regulations

(3) Employment Type:

- Employment time : Basically, discretionary labor system for specialized work (deemed working hours: 7 hours and 45 minutes a day).

If the professional business-type recruiting labor system is not applied, a fixed working hour system will be applied, with a weekly working hours of 38 hours and 45 minutes and a daily working hours of 8:30 am to 5:15 pm (break time: 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm).

Whether a discretionary work system or a fixed working hour system is applied will be determined at the time of hiring.

- Holidays : Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, holidays around the end of the year and the beginning of the year, etc.

(4) Health insurance: Provided by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Mutual Aid Association, Employment Insurance, Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance

(5) Laboratory: A shared space will be provided.

7. Support for Nurturing Young Researchers

In order to take advantage of the Swing-by Program, which is a collective recruitment system that transcends fields, we ask that you concurrently serve at the Institute for Research Administration for the first three years after your appointment and engage in the following activities

- To proactively develop networks across departments and disciplines.
- To conduct interdisciplinary exchange activities utilizing the established network and disseminate the results widely inside and outside the university.

In order to realize the above, the following activities and others are included.

- Planning and management of employer synchronization meetings and interdisciplinary exchange meetings
- At least once a year, exchange of opinions with the president and board members
- Training on teaching methods at universities

In addition, the University has the following research support systems, which we expect you to make active use of.

- Niigata University equipment sharing system
- Support for obtaining external funds such as ‘Kakenhi’
- Regular interdisciplinary exchange meetings
- Allocation of start-up research funds from the Swing-by Program

- Other training for education and research activities

8. Application Documents

Please submit your application online via the JREC-IN Portal. If you have difficulty applying online, you may send the required documents by postal mail.

For this call, “researchmap” will be used to review your academic achievements, external funding history, and major publications.

- (1) Curriculum Vitae (must include a photograph for personal identification purposes).
In the "Awards and Penalties" section of your resume, please provide not only awards and criminal penalties, but also any past disciplinary actions taken against students due to sexual harassment or sexual violence, and if applicable, the specific reasons that led to such actions. If there is no column for "Awards and Disciplinary Punishments," please indicate in Remarks, etc. whether or not there were any awards or disciplinary punishments and the reasons for them.
In the unlikely event that there is any misrepresentation of your career history, your employment may be cancelled or you may be subject to disciplinary action.
- (2) An outline detailing your current and past research activities as well as your future aspirations for education and research at Niigata University. Each of these should be approximately two A4 pages.
- (3) Contact information, including email addresses, of two references who can independently evaluate your academic achievements, character and conduct.
- (4) Research plan on Interdisciplinary Research on Brain Pathology (approximately two A4 pages). Please describe the purpose, background, and methods. Figures may be included where appropriate; color figures are acceptable.

*If applying by postal mail, please also send

- (5) A list of research achievements (Please organize your achievements by category, such as peer-reviewed papers, international conference papers, books and other publications, patents, and academic awards. The documents should be prepared on A4-sized paper.
- (6) Status of external funding (Please indicate whether you served as the principal investigator or a co-investigator).
- (7) Printouts or copies of up to three major research achievements

*You may be required to submit additional documents if necessary.

Please confirm that all the required documents are included in an envelope. Outside the envelope please specify clearly in red ink “Enclosed the application documents for ‘Swing-by’ Program for ●● (your desired faculty)”, and send it to the address shown below by registered post or courier service (in a way which allows you to confirm that your application has been received by us).

*Application documents will not be returned, and handled with strict confidentiality. Your personal information obtained by Niigata University in the process of the recruitment will be properly handled based on “Act on the Protection of Personal Information”, and will not be used for any purpose other than the selection process.

9. Screening and Selection Schedule

- (1) Application Deadline : August 20, 2025. (5:00 p.m. Japan time)
- (2) First screening : Late August to mid-September, 2025: Review of application documents and an interview (conducted either in person or online).
- (3) Notification of the result of the first selection: Late September 2025
- (4) Schedule for final screening: Scheduled from October to November 2025.
Interview by University President and board members (Online interview might be conducted).
- (5) Notification of the result:
Applicants will be notified of the result after the selection process is over.

* Applicants are responsible for all costs associated with the selection process, including travel and accommodation expenses.

10. Contact Information:

For any further information, please contact us by e-mail.

- (1) Applications should be submitted to:

Brain Research Institute, Niigata University
757 Asahimachi 1-cho, Chuo-ku, Niigata-shi, Niigata 951-8585
E-mail noukenshomu@adm.niigata-u.ac.jp

- (2) Inquiry: Brain Research Institute, Niigata University
E-mail noukenshomu@adm.niigata-u.ac.jp

11. Inquiries Regarding the Content of the Work:

Please contact us by e-mail, unless otherwise the matter is urgent.

- (1) Inquiry: Brain Research Institute, Niigata University
E-mail noukenshomu@adm.niigata-u.ac.jp

12. Others

- *Niigata University has set up the “Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion” in our campus, and is firmly committed to gender balance and supporting physically handicapped researchers (<https://diversity.nu.niigata-u.ac.jp/>).
- *Niigata University is promoting hiring of faculty members who have a flexible attitude in today’s global society and to realize the globalization of our campus. We welcome applications from foreigners who can communicate with researchers and students in English. Japanese communication skill will be an added advantage, but not an essential condition for the application.