**International Leading Research:**

**AY2025 Independent Research Funding for Young Researchers**

1. **Overview**

The Independent Research Funding is designed to support young researchers who propose outstanding research plans aligned with the objectives of the KAKENHI International Leading Research project "Creating a kidney: A global network to generate transplantable kidney organoids" (24K23941). These funds are intended to be used autonomously by the young researchers themselves.

1. **Eligibility**

Applicants must be postdoctoral researchers or Ph.D. students actively engaged in the project under the supervision of the Principal Investigator (PI) or Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) (collectively referred to as "domestic PIs") of this research project.

1. **Amount of Funding**

The funding limit is 1,000,000 JPY for postdoctoral researchers and 300,000 JPY for Ph.D. students. These funds may be used for consumables and travel expenses directly related to conducting the proposed research.

1. **Selection Process**

Five domestic PIs will review the proposals and select the successful applicants. The results will be announced in May 2025.

1. **How to Apply**

Applicants must complete "Form 1" and obtain approval from their supervising PI before submitting it. When citing papers or other sources in their application, applicants must clearly indicate that these are citations and take appropriate measures to identify their sources. This includes papers not only from other labs but also from the applicant's own lab. Additionally, non-academic sources such as books and website information should also be included.

 　**Submission Details**: Upload the completed "**Form 1**" in both Word and PDF formats (signed or stamped) to the following URL: <https://prsf.kumamoto-u.ac.jp/public/K8pVQwwHfCLeiTb6ogGIc-SsNeQH-SBsZiTFQIcOxUca>

　Note: A password is required for submission. Please contact your PI for the password.

 　**File Name**: Name the file as "Form1\_2025\_ [YOUR NAME]."

1. **Application Deadline**

Applications must be received by **5:00 PM on Monday, May 12, 2025**. Late submissions will not be accepted.

1. **Rules and Regulations**

This research funding is supported by the Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI). All expenditures must comply with the rules and regulations of the KAKENHI International Leading Research, as well as the accounting policies of each affiliated university and institution. Expenditures should be planned well in advance and not be concentrated at the end of the fiscal year. For the rules and regulations of the KAKENHI, please see the following link: <https://www.jsps.go.jp/j-grantsinaid/16_rule/shiyourule.html>

1. **Expenditure Deadline**

 　**Consumable purchases:** All deliveries must be completed by **Friday, March 13, 2026**.

 　**Travel expenses:** All travel must be completed by **Tuesday, March 31, 2026**.

1. **Responsibility**

Recipients' supervisors (domestic PIs) are fully responsible for overseeing both the research activities and the proper use of funds.

1. **Report**

All recipients must report their research outcomes by submitting “**Form 2**” to their supervisor by **Thursday, April 30, 2026**. If the funds were used for travel expenses, please also submit a Travel Support Report (**Form 3**). The reports will be shared with domestic PIs, who will provide feedback from an educational perspective. Please be sure to obtain confirmation from your academic advisor before submitting the reports.

1. **Inquiries**

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