***\*Use 10.5 point font and complete within 9 pages. Submit in PDF format.***

***Contact/Address to Send Your Application： Miki/Kanemoto, Research Support Office***

***Email：***[***ou-fellowship@adm.okayama-u.ac.jp***](mailto:ou-fellowship@adm.okayama-u.ac.jp)

**Academic Year 2026**

**Application Form for Okayama University Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the**

**Next Generation (OU-SPRING)**

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| **[Submission Date] Month: Day:　　Year:** |

**I have read the application guidelines thoroughly and have confirmed that I am eligible to apply for the Okayama University Support for Pioneering Research Initiated by the Next Generation FY2026.**

Portrait photograph

Please attach a photo of your face taken within the last 3 months.

・Photographs taken with a smartphone or other mobile device are acceptable.

・The photo will be used for identification purposes during the interview screening and will not be considered for screening.

**1.** **Applicant Information**

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| Full Name |  | | |
| Gender\* | アイテムを選択してください。 | Nationality |  |
| Status of residence | *If you have a nationality other than Japanese, please check the applicable items regarding your status of residence. If you selected “Other,” please provide detailed information.*  Study  Dependent  Permanent Resident  Other（　　　　　　　　　　　） | | |
| Contact Information | Email:  Phone Number: | | |
| Date of Birth | Month: Day:　　Year:　　　(Age: )　(As of April 1, 2026) | | |
| Student Number | *If you are enrolled at Okayama University at the time of application, please provide your student number.* | | |
| Academic History (After undergraduate degree) | 1. Month: Year:　 University　　Faculty　　Graduation  2. Month: Year:　 University　Master's Course　　Division 　　Admitted  3. Month: Year:　　Completed (Expect to complete) | | |
| Status of Enrollment in the Doctor’s Course  (As of April 1, 2026) | 1. Date of (Intended) Enrollment: Month Year  2. Title of Graduate Course/Division: アイテムを選択してください。  3. Grade of the doctor’s course as of April 1, 2026: アイテムを選択してください。 | | |
| Title and Name of the Advisor (Planned) |  | | |
| Evaluator Information | *Provide the following information regarding the individual submitting the Evaluation Form: the evaluator’s affiliation, title, name, and relationship to the applicant.*  *（If the person is the same as the one provided in “Advisor (Planned),” write “Same as the advisor (planned).”* | | |

\*Gender does not affect the screening process. If you do not want to answer, you may leave it blank.

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| Confirmation of Eligibility to Apply　　★ If you have any question about your eligibility, please contact the Office. | |
| Eligibility to Apply  Check one of the following | *Place a checkmark in the appropriate box below regarding your current or estimated status as of April 1, 2026, and provide the required information.*  I ***am not*** an employee receiving a regular income.  I ***am*** an employee receiving a regular income.  　　　　Company Name:  Working Style & Status (Full-time, on leave from work, etc.):  Estimated income for a year from now: yen  *\* Please attach the Certificate of Estimated Income (designated form).* *If the Certificate is not yet ready, submit it separately from the application form as soon as it is. Individuals with the estimated income for a year from now exceeding 2,400,000 yen are not eligible to apply.*  I ***am not*** a Research Fellow (Young Scientists) of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.  (Special Notes: )  *\* Applicants who are also interview candidates for the Research Fellowship for Young Scientists of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (starting from April 2026) as of the date of submission of this application form should note this in the Special Notes.*  *（The two items below are only for students from abroad.）*  I came/will come from abroad to study in Japan, but I’m not a recipient of the Japanese Government (MEXT) Scholarship.  I came/will come from abroad to study in Japan, but I’m not a recipient of a scholarship from my country. |
| Other Scholarships, etc.  (Excluding one-time award for enrollment) | *Please check the boxes and fill in the required information regarding other scholarships you are currently receiving (continue to receive as of April 1, 2026), have applied for, or plan to apply for.*  I ***am not*** a recipient of any scholarships, excluding one-time award for enrollment, and I ***am not*** currently in the process of applying for any other than the OU-SPRING.  I am applying or will apply to FY2026 OU-BOOST-AI.  *\* If you are selected for OU-BOOST-AI, you must decline OU-SPRING.*  I amreceiving the following other scholarship. /I ama recipient of the following scholarship. / I have applied for the following scholarship. *\* Cross out the portion that* ***does not*** *apply.*  Name of Scholarship:  Monthly Stipend: yen (Duration: from month/year to month/year) |

**2. Research Achievements　Note your past achievements considering (1) to (6) below.**

**(1) Work published in academic journals, etc. (including bulletins, collections of theses, etc.), and books** (Clearly state whether they were reviewed or not. **If reviewed, list only those accepted for future publication.**) Include author(s) marking your name with a single underline, title, name of journal, publisher, issue number, starting and ending pages (pp), and year of publication.

**(2) Commentaries and summaries posted in academic journals or commercial publications**

**(3) Presentations at international conferences (Clearly state whether they were oral or poster presentations, and if they were reviewed or not.)** Write the name of author(s), title, name of the academic conference, number of theses, location, month and year. (**Include only if your presentation application has been accepted.**)

**(4) Presentations at domestic conferences, symposiums, etc.** Write as in (3) above.

**(5) Patents, etc.** (Clearly state whether the patent is in the application process, the application is published, or the patent has been acquired. However, in the case that the patent is in the application process and cannot be described in detail, only an outline should be provided.)

**(6) Other** (Prizes, etc.)

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**3. Title of Research and Contribution to "Top Priority Research Fields of Okayama University"**

**(1) Title of Research**　Write the title of the research described in “4. Research Plan” below within 100 letters.

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| Title of Research: |

**(2) Contribution to "Top Priority Research Fields of Okayama University"**Please check how the research you will conduct under the OU-SPRING can contribute to "Top Priority Research Fields of Okayama University". Please select one of the following ① to ⑦ below, and please describe how your research can contribute to the relevant field.

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| **"Top Priority Research Fields of Okayama University"** | ① Crop and plant science fields |
| ② Healthcare fields |
| ③ IT and electronics fields |
| ④ Planetary science and astrophysics fields |
| ⑤ Innovative Materials fields |
| ⑥ Archaeology fields |
| ⑦ Interdisciplinary research related to ① to ⑥, service and social system design |
| **Please describe how your research contributes to the relevant fields.** | |

**4. Research Plan**

**(1) Research Background**Discuss your past research achievements, and describe the theme, background, issues, and problems to be solved in the research you plan to conduct during your doctoral studies.

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**(2) Objectives and Content of Research**　(Describe in an easy-to-understand manner using figures and tables. )

① Describe the objectives, methods, and content of your research.

② Specifically, describe what, how, and how much you are going to clarify through the research, and by when. Also, describe how to cope with unexpected delay of your research plan.

③ If the research will be conducted by a group, clearly describe your part.

④ If you are going to conduct research at a different research institution during the relevant research period (regardless of whether it will be inside or outside of Japan), please note this below.

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**(3) Features and Unique Points of Research**Write about the following items:

① Features, viewpoints, and unique points of the research compared with previous studies if there are any

② Positioning and meaning of the relevant research among the related research conducted both inside and outside Japan

③ Expected impact when the research is completed and your future vision

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**5. Reasons you want to be a researcher, what you consider the desirable characteristics of a researcher to be, your strong points, etc.**

　This Program was established to cultivate young researchers capable of promoting Okayama University priority research fields and playing important roles in science, technology and innovation creation in Japan. Considering these goals, please discuss the reasons you want to be a researcher, the type of researcher you wish to be, your motivation to take charge of science, technology, and innovation creation for the future of the country, your strong points, etc. If you have specific career goals after completion of the doctor’s course (academia, private sector, starting a business, overseas post-doctoral researcher, etc.), please discuss them below.

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**6. Visions and Methods to Contribute to Science, Technology and Innovation Creation for Future Japan**

This Program was established to cultivate researchers capable of playing important roles in science, technology and innovation creation for Japan. Considering these goals, please discuss specifically how you will contribute to science, technology and innovation creation for future Japan.

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**7. Challenges in the Doctor’s Course**

Please describe what you would like to work on to become the person you want to be in the future, what you would like to do to realize your future dreams, what you would like to work on to improve yourself, etc.

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