

Announcement of the FY 2026 RESPECT Joint Research Grant Call

Woman Researchers Support Office of
Osaka Metropolitan University

As part of the Women Researchers' Research Capacity Enhancement Support Program (RESPECT), we invite applications from women researchers who will serve as team leaders and engage in collaborative research, in accordance with the details outlined below. Applications from a wide range of research fields are highly welcomed.

1. Purpose

The purpose of this program is to increase the number of women in senior academic positions, such as professors, at the University. By providing collaborative research funding as a competitive incentive to women researchers, the program aims to promote activities in which women researchers serve as leaders of research teams.

2. Eligibility

Applicants must satisfy all of the following conditions:

- ① The applicant must be a woman faculty member at Osaka Metropolitan University at the rank of Associate Professor or below (including full-time fixed-term faculty members: Associate Professors, Lecturers, and Assistant Professors), and must serve as the principal investigator of a research team that includes at least one collaborative researcher※. Fixed-term faculty members are eligible only if their appointment covers the entire research period.
※ If applicants wish to be matched with collaborative researchers, they may consult during the pre-application consultation described below.
- ② Applicants must have attended at least one skill-up seminar organized by Woman Researchers Support Office in FY 2025. Attendance is considered valid upon submission of the post-seminar questionnaire.
However, for faculty members who were appointed during the course of FY 2025 and were unable to attend a seminar within that fiscal year, as well as those appointed in April 2026, eligibility will be conditional upon attending at least one such seminar during FY 2026.
- ③ The applicant must propose an emergent and challenging research project in which she demonstrates strong leadership by organizing a newly formed research team and actively engaging in the project, and must show a clear commitment and motivation toward long-term development and future career advancement.
※ In this program, “*leadership*” refers to the applicant taking a central role in organizing the research team, designing the research methodology, formulating and implementing the research plan, and defining the future research outlook.
- ④ Applicants must not have been selected for the RESPECT Joint Research Grant in or after FY 2022.

3. Research Period

The research period shall run from the date of selection until March 31, 2028 (up to two years). However, an extension of up to one additional year may be granted if deemed necessary due to life events or other unavoidable circumstances.

4. Research Funding

The maximum amount of research funding is JPY 2,000,000 per project.

- The allocation of research funds is subject to the approval of the annual project budget and will be granted only to **the principal investigator**.
- The use of research funds shall comply with Osaka Metropolitan University's regulations governing the expenditure of funds.
- **Research funds shall be allocated on a fiscal-year basis in accordance with the budget plan submitted at the time of application, and carryover of funds to subsequent fiscal years is not permitted.**

5. Number of Projects to Be Funded (Tentative)

Approximately five (5) projects will be selected, subject to the results of the review process.

Depending on the number of selected projects, the amount of research funding awarded per project may be adjusted.

6. Review Process and Notification of Results

Applications will be reviewed by the RESPECT Review Committee through a document-based review and a presentation review (to be held online; each presentation is planned to consist of 10 minutes for the presentation followed by 5 minutes of questions and answers).

However, if the number of applications is large, the presentation review will be conducted for approximately ten (10) applications, which will be selected based on the results of the document-based review.

< Review Criteria >

- 1 . Composition of the research team and its ability to carry out the proposed research
- 2 . Demonstration of leadership by the principal investigator
- 3 . Significance of the research in a manner understandable to researchers from different disciplines (including both academic significance and social impact)
- 4 . Future potential of the research (whether the project is expected to develop in diverse and sustainable ways)

The review results will be notified to applicants by the end of July 2026 and will also be announced via the OMU Portal and other relevant platforms.

7. Requirements After Selection

Selected applicants are required to carry out the following obligations:

- (1) After the end of each fiscal year, the selected applicant must promptly submit an “Interim Report” to the Woman Researchers Support Office, reporting on the progress of the research project.
- (2) At the “Results Presentation Meeting” held in the final year, the selected applicant shall present the research outcomes, including but not limited to conference presentations, publications in academic journals, acquisition of external research funding, patent applications, collaborative research agreements with industry or other organizations, and press releases or media coverage.
- (3) After the end of the final fiscal year, the selected applicant must promptly submit a “Final Research Report” to the Woman Researchers Support Office, providing a comprehensive report on the research outcomes.
- (4) The selected applicant is required to participate as a mentee in the “Promotion Mentor Program,” which is implemented by the Woman Researchers Support Office as part of its support for advancement to senior academic positions, and to receive mentoring through the program.

8. Duplication of Research Topics

Applications may be submitted for research topics that have already been selected for funding through internal or external research grants.

However, in cases where applications receive an equivalent evaluation during the review process, priority will be given to projects proposing new research topics.

9. Information Session for the Open Call

Friday, April 17, 2026, 12:30–13:00 Online (Zoom details will be posted on the OMU Portal)

10. Application Documents, Submission Method, and Deadline

Applicants are required to submit the following documents via the online application form.

- 「**Application for the FY 2026 RESPECT Collaborative Research Grant**」
Submission Address : [【申請フォーム】 2026年度 RESPECT共同研究助成](#)

※Please log in using your OMU email address.

Submission Deadline **5:00 p.m., Thursday, April 30, 2026 (must arrive by the deadline)**

1 1. Regarding Pre-Application Consultation

Applicants who wish to do so may receive a pre-application consultation (approximately the first 10 applicants, on a first-come, first-served basis). Consultations will cover research concepts, research team formation, and support for preparing the application documents. In principle, consultations will be conducted in person.

Application Form : [【個別支援】 2026年度RESPECT共同研究助成申請前相談応募フォーム](#)

Final Application Deadline : 12:00 p.m., Friday, April 17, 2026

1 2. Contact Information

Office for Women Researchers Contacts: Miki, Torii, Shinotani
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