

Joint Research Advancement Programme

Call for Proposals

Under the broad theme of **“Healthy Aging”**—one of the most urgent global challenges of our time—Nagoya University (“NU”) and the University of Edinburgh (“UoE”) invite proposals for **joint research projects** between the two institutions. Researchers from any discipline—whether in the humanities, social sciences, sciences, engineering, medicine, or related fields—are encouraged to apply, provided their work engages with the topic of Healthy Aging in a broad sense.

The call has been created to provide seed funding opportunities for faculty teams to develop plans for joint research projects integrating faculty and students from both universities. Combining the two universities' strengths, the call aims to foster collaboration between NU and the UoE in the field of “Healthy Aging”.

Proposals are intended to support collaboration on a joint research project between researchers. The programme will support research stays at the partner university, joint conferences, virtual seminars, and activities for graduate students, and early-career researchers.

A successful proposal will (i) present high-quality, meaningful research that can contribute to the globally urgent issue of Healthy Aging, (ii) involve substantive collaboration between faculty members at both institutions, and (iii) show potential for future sustainability through external funding.”

The Partners

Nagoya University, established in 1939, is a Japanese national university and major contributor to research and higher education in humanities and sciences with outreach throughout the Asian continent. Leveraging its historical ties with the numerous technological manufacturing industries of the Tokai region in central Japan, Nagoya University continuously drives innovation and development throughout all domains of society.

The University of Edinburgh, established in 1583, is one of the world's leading universities. We are ranked first in Scotland and fourth in the UK for research power, based on the quality and breadth of our work. We are 35th in the 2027 QS World University Rankings, and we consistently appear in the global top 50. We are ranked 4th in the UK for research power, based on the 2021 Research Excellence Framework. Through our research and teaching excellence, we have been influencing the world for more than 400 years.

Overview

1. Up to two (2) joint research projects can be funded.
2. A one-time award with no opportunity for renewal.
3. Funding Amount: The support per project is worth 5,000 GBP for the UoE participants and one million JPY for NU participants. Each university will provide funding to its own affiliated researchers participating in the joint project.
4. Funding period: Until March 2027 at NU and until July 2027 at the UoE.
5. In principle, this funding scheme is designed primarily to **promote the exchange of researchers** between the two universities. Supported activities include research stays,



invitations of partner-university researchers, workshops, conferences, and training opportunities for early-career researchers. Funding cannot be used for salaries, indirect costs, consultant fees, or general equipment. All expenses are subject to rules and regulations at the home institution. Please inquire with your university contact for clarification about whether an expense is allowable.

Proposal format, eligibility, and submission

1. Applicant teams are invited to contact their programme coordinator prior to submitting their application (see below).
2. The completed application form (one PDF file, including the appendix) with the password should be emailed to the programme coordinator (see below) at each Lead Applicant's home institution. Please provide the password in a separate email.
3. The appendix should include a calculation sheet as well as a CV (max. 1 page) per team member.
4. Applicant teams must submit the complete application dossier by the specified deadline. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
5. Eligibility: The call is directed at teams that contain at least one faculty member from the two universities. Faculty members (e.g., professors, principal investigators, lead researchers) need to hold a position at their respective universities for the duration of the research project. One faculty member from the UoE and NU shall be named the joint coordinators of the application.
6. Applications should be written in English.

Proposal Evaluation

1. Selection under the programme is competitive and merit based. A joint selection committee from NU and the UoE will evaluate and select the joint research project to be funded.
2. Funding priority will be given to projects that:
 - a. Strengthen the connectivity and relationship between NU and the UoE in the field of "Health Aging".
 - b. Create a team with multiple faculty members at each university.
 - c. Advance the creation of self-supporting, sustainable, collaborative research, and provide a funding plan beyond year one.
3. Evaluation criteria and weighting:
 - a. Contribution to Healthy Aging (30%)
The proposal presents high-quality and meaningful research with clear potential to contribute to the globally urgent challenge of Healthy Aging.
 - b. Strength of integrated collaboration (40%)
The proposal demonstrates a strong and well-structured plan for integrated collaboration between the two universities, involving multiple faculty members at each institution and contributing to the long-term partnership between them.
 - c. Future sustainability (30%)
The proposal outlines a credible plan for developing a self-supporting and sustainable collaboration programme through future external funding opportunities.

Timeline

The deadline for applications is 31 August 2026 at 23:59 (BST), 1 September 2026 at 07:59 (JST). Selection decisions will be announced by 30 September 2026.

The last day for NU awardees to use the funds is 31 March 2027.

The last day for the UoE awardees to use the funds is 31st July 2027.

Applicants are required to submit a joint project report (template available) by the end of the funding period on 31st July 2027.

Contacts

Please contact the programme coordinator at your home institution prior to submitting an application:

Nagoya University:

Yuriko Nishizaki
Designated Lecturer, Global Muti-Campus Institute
Nagoya University
Email: gmc-europe@t.mail.nagoya-u.ac.jp

The University of Edinburgh:

Prof. Neil Robertson
Dean International Partnerships, College of Science & Engineering
Head of Inorganic Chemistry
School of Chemistry, University of Edinburgh
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NAGOYA
UNIVERSITY



THE UNIVERSITY
of EDINBURGH

**Nagoya University-University of Edinburgh
Joint Research Advancement Programme
2026 Application Form (Form 1)**

1. PARTNER INVESTIGATORS		
Lead Applicant/ Joint Coordinator (NU)	Name:	Phone:
	School:	e-mail:
	Position:	
Co-Applicant (2) (NU)	Name:	Phone:
	School:	e-mail:
	Position:	
Co-Applicant (3) (NU)	Name:	Phone:
	School:	e-mail:
	Position:	
Co-Applicant (4) (NU)	Name:	Phone:
	School:	e-mail:
	Position:	
Lead Applicant/ Joint Coordinator (UoE)	Name:	Phone:
	School:	e-mail:
	Position:	
Co-Applicant (2) (UoE)	Name:	Phone:
	School:	e-mail:
	Position:	
Co-Applicant (3) (UoE)	Name:	Phone:
	School:	e-mail:
	Position:	
Co-Applicant (4) (UoE)	Name:	Phone:
	School:	e-mail:
	Position:	
2. PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Title		
Key Words		

(a) Project description, aims and objectives and alignment with the selection criteria:

(b) Describe the project's anticipated outputs and outcomes, including plans for the project's future development following the end of the seed funding period (future funding is addressed in section d):

(c) Describe how the requested funding will support the achievement of project aims listed above:

(d) Describe your specific plans for obtaining external funding (which external funding agencies you will apply to and when) after the end of requested funding:

3. ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS – this section may include, for example, information pertaining to the involvement of external partners, postgraduate students, or other factors

CERTIFICATIONS

Lead Applicant

I confirm that all other partner investigators have been consulted in the preparation of this application and have agreed to their inclusion and respective contributions as a partner investigator.

Name of Lead Applicants	Date
Nagoya University:	
The University of Edinburgh:	

Attachment

- Form 2 “Calculation Sheet”
- CV (1 page maximum) for each applicant



Item / Activity for expenditure	GBP
TOTAL	£0.00