

Kyoto University, Astronomical Observatory – Research Fellow Position

1. Job title: Research Fellow
2. Number of vacant positions: 2
3. Division: Astronomical Observatory, School of Science, Kyoto University
4. Location: Hida Observatory (Takayama, Gifu, Japan) or Okayama Observatory (Asakuchi, Okayama, Japan). (Possible change of work location): Other Kyoto University campuses or any other place as designated by the university (including remote work from home, if permitted or instructed by the university).
5. Job description:

The successful applicant will engage in advanced research in either of the following:

 - (a) Observational solar physics and related instrument development. In particular, active participation in the NIRTF (Near-Infrared Tunable Filter) development project promoted by the observatory is expected. The successful candidate will also be involved in solar physics research using the Solar Magnetic Activity Research Telescope (SMART) and the Domeless Solar Telescope (DST) at Hida Observatory, in collaboration with space-based and other ground-based observatories.
 - (b) Instrument development for the 3.8m diameter optical-infrared telescope (Seimei Telescope) at Okayama Observatory and related scientific research. For this topic, a skill of smooth communication in Japanese language is required.
6. Qualification:
 - ✓ Applicants must hold a doctoral degree or be certain to obtain one before the start date.
 - ✓ A valid driver's license (or the prospect of obtaining one by the start date) is required.
7. Start Date: As soon as possible after selection
8. Term of Employment: From the earliest possible date after appointment until March 31, 2027. (The contract may be renewed annually up to a total of three years, depending on factors such as the amount of work available, performance, attitude, ability, progress of ongoing work, financial situation, and funding status.)
9. Probationary Period: None
10. Working Conditions:
 - ✓ Five working days per week (Monday to Friday; excluding weekends, national holidays, year-end/New Year holidays, and the university's foundation day)

- ✓ 6 hours per day (normally 9:00–16:00 with a 1-hour break; total up to 30 hours per week)
 - ✓ Working hours may be negotiable.
 - ✓ Overtime work may be required if necessary.
 - ✓ Paid annual leave is available.
11. Salary: Hourly wage between JPY 1,900 and 2,700, determined according to Kyoto University's regulations and based on qualifications and experience.
12. Allowance: Commuting and overtime allowances are provided in accordance with university regulations. Other allowances, bonuses, and retirement benefits are not provided.
13. Social insurance:
- Enrollment in the following insurance systems:
- ✓ Mutual Aid Association of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (short-term insurance)
 - ✓ Employees' Pension Insurance
 - ✓ Employment Insurance
 - ✓ Workers' Accident Compensation Insurance
14. Application Documents:
- (a) Cover Sheet, including:
- Full name, current affiliation, contact information (phone number, e-mail address, and mailing address), possible starting date, and preferred job (Choose (a) or (b) from the item 5 above.)
- If applicable, indicate any period(s) of research interruption due to childbirth, childcare, or caregiving responsibilities.
- (b) Curriculum Vitae (CV) (For applicants who have not yet received a Ph.D., state the expected date of completion.)
- (c) Summary of Research Achievements (within 1 page of A4)
- (d) Research Plan after Appointment (within 1 page of A4)
- (e) List of Publications, categorized as First-author refereed papers, Co-authored refereed papers, and Other publications
- (f) List of up to three representative papers, with citation counts for each (preferably based on NASA/ADS data). Full texts are not required.
- (g) Names and contact information of two references who can provide opinions on the applicant's qualifications.
15. Application Deadline: January 5 (Mon), 2026, 23:59 JST (strict deadline)

16. Selection Process: Selections are done by the submitted documents. An in-person or on-line interview could be requested.

17. Submission of Application:

Send all application documents as PDF files (maximum total size 20 MB) by e-mail to: application*kwasan.kyoto-u.ac.jp (*replace * with @)

Please specify the following:

E-mail subject: “Application for Research Fellow Position, Astronomical Observatory”

Addressed to: Prof. Takaaki Yokoyama, Director

If you do not receive an acknowledgment of receipt within about three (3) business days after submission, please contact the person listed below.

18. Contact Information:

Prof. Takaaki Yokoyama

Astronomical Observatory, Graduate School of Science, Kyoto University

Tel: +81-75-753-3904

E-mail: yokoyama.takaaki.2a*kyoto-u.ac.jp (*replace * with @)

19. Additional Information:

- ✓ For information about the Astronomical Observatory, please visit the website: <https://www.kwasan.kyoto-u.ac.jp>
- ✓ For details about the NIRTF development project, please refer to Section 4 of the document “10-Year Plan for Solar Research at Kyoto University Astronomical Observatory” available at: <https://www.kwasan.kyoto-u.ac.jp/research/future/>
- ✓ Application documents will be used only for selection purposes and will not be disclosed, transferred, or lent to any third party without legitimate reason. Documents will not be returned.
- ✓ Kyoto University promotes gender equality. In accordance with Article 8 of the Equal Employment Opportunity Law, if applicants are judged to be equally qualified, female applicants will be given preference.
- ✓ The Graduate School of Science is committed to ensuring research integrity and compliance awareness among faculty and students.
- ✓ Kyoto University provides support for balancing education/research with family life. <https://www.cwr.kyoto-u.ac.jp>