



May 26, 2020

UTECH–UTokyo FSI Research Grant Program Application Guidelines for FY 2020 University of Tokyo Excellent Young Researcher

【Objective】

The University of Tokyo Edge Capital Co., Ltd./The University of Tokyo Edge Capital Partners Co., Ltd. (UTECH) is a venture capital firm investing in venture companies which effectively use the excellent intellectual properties and human resources of universities and research institutions including the University of Tokyo. Since its inception back in 2004, UTECH has made venture capital investments in 4 limited partnerships with the commitment of approximately JPY 55 billion as of September 2019, and has supported the activities of start-ups pioneering the science and frontier technologies developed by the institutions including the University of Tokyo.

On this occasion the UTECH–UTokyo FSI Foundation project was established by donations to the University of Tokyo Foundation from UTECH and subsequently the UTECH–UTokyo FSI Research Grant Program was created to support researchers conducting leading-edge research at the University of Tokyo.

The main features of the program are as follows.

- (1) So that the grant recipients can concentrate on their research as much as possible the need for reporting following the awarding of the grant has been removed.
- (2) The grant recipients' main obligation is to submit research papers to prominent academic journals.
- (3) Fundamental research is emphasized, but short-term practical or commercial viability of the research project is not required.

【Target Research Field】

This grant program is primarily for research in the fields of natural or applied sciences.

【Outline of the Grant】

- (1) Aim for use of the Grant

Subsidy to cover expenses to develop fundamental research areas and fundamental technology, which will become the cornerstone of future scientific research.

- (2) Grant Amount and Duration

Around JPY 5 to 10 million/year per project for a duration of two years

* The grant amount includes a start-up fund of JPY 3 million/year provided under the “University of Tokyo Excellent Young Researcher” project. In principle, the full amount of the start-up fund should be used for the research plan specified in the grant application form. The start-up fund can be used for any expenses if related to the research plan.

- (3) Number of Research Projects to be Selected

Around 5 to 10 projects per year

【Eligibility】

Either of the following conditions must be satisfied to apply for the grant program.

- (1) Nominees for FY 2020 University of Tokyo Excellent Young Researcher (Type A)
- (2) Applicants for FY 2020 University of Tokyo Excellent Young Researcher (Type B)

【Application Method】

Nominees/applicants for the “University of Tokyo Excellent Young Researcher” who would like to apply for the grant program should submit their application form (A4 size, three pages) to the Planning and Coordination Team, Academic Promotion Planning Group by email. The application form should be written in Japanese or English.

The application form can be downloaded from the following link.

https://www.u-tokyo.ac.jp/ja/research/systems-data/utec-utokyo_fsiresearchgrant.html

<Submit to>

Planning and Coordination Team, Academic Promotion Planning Group,
Research Promotion Department, The University of Tokyo
kenkyusuishin.adm@gs.mail.u-tokyo.ac.jp

【Application Deadline】

- (1) Nominees for FY 2020 University of Tokyo Excellent Young Researcher (Type A):
Thursday, September 10, 2020
- (2) Applicants for FY 2020 University of Tokyo Excellent Young Researcher (Type B):
Tuesday, July 21, 2020

【Selection Process】

UTEC-UTokyo FSI Research Grant Program Steering Committee will select the grant recipients from the successful nominees/applicants of the “University of Tokyo Excellent Young Researcher” by the committee screening. The steering committee may ask to interview the candidates during the selection process as necessary. The grant will not be awarded unless the nominees/applicants are selected as a “University of Tokyo Excellent Young Researcher”.

【Selection Criteria】

The steering committee will screen applications by focusing on the following criteria.

- (1) The research project demonstrates development of internationally high-standard fundamental research areas and fundamental technology which will have a great impact on solving worldwide problems or problems facing the human race.
- (2) The research project demonstrates originality created by the program applicant or the applicant’s group member(s).
- (3) The research project demonstrates feasible approach to realize the research plan.

【Points to Consider about the Grant Recipient’s Obligations and Other Responsibilities】

- (1) Grant recipients shall submit research papers to prominent academic journals.
- (2) Grant recipients shall discuss the selection of the academic journals and relevant matters with the UTEC-UTokyo FSI Foundation (hereinafter referred to as the “Foundation”) officers before submitting a paper to the journal.

- (3) Grant recipients shall specify that the grant was awarded by the Foundation when publicizing the research findings in oral or written presentations.
- (4) Grant recipients shall submit a reprint of the paper to the Foundation officers when submitting research papers to journals.
- (5) Grant recipients do not have to submit any progress or final report of the research project after the grant was awarded.
- (6) Grant recipients may be asked by the Foundation about the research progress.
- (7) Grant recipients shall submit a grant usage report within one month after the end of the grant period.
- (8) Grant recipients shall promptly notify the Foundation when the content described in the application form changes.
- (9) The affiliation of the granted project representative, their position, name and the research theme may be released on the program website or other media.

【Contact Details】

Planning and Coordination Team, Academic Promotion Planning Group

Research Promotion Department, The University of Tokyo

Email: kenkyusuishin.adm@gs.mail.u-tokyo.ac.jp TEL: 03-5841-0267 / 20267 (Extension)

* In principle, response to inquiries will be by email.