

Application Guideline for academic staff Position
at the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, JAXA

1.	Position	Associate Professor (Academic Staff)
2.	Number of Positions	One
3.	Affiliation	Department of Solar System Sciences, Institute of Space and Astronautical Science (ISAS)
4.	Work Location	JAXA Sagamihara Campus (3-1-1 Yoshinodai, Chuo-ku, Sagamihara, Kanagawa, JAPAN) <Scope of changes> Locations determined by the agency in the case of changes due to personnel transfers, organizational restructuring, etc. When telework is performed according to the organization's rules, its location is also included.
5.	Starting Date	April 1 st , 2026 or the earliest possible date thereafter
6.	Term of Employment	Non fixed term
7.	Term of Probationary	6 months from the date of hire
8.	Job Duties	Research, development, and graduate education related to solar system science
9.	Detailed Job Duties and Desired Candidate Profile	<p>In order to elucidate “How the solar system and life were born and evolved to the present?” as the major goal for solar system sciences, ISAS/JAXA has produced unique results in the field of Heliospheric system science including solar physics, magnetospheric plasma physics, and planetary atmospheric science through many years of continuous and advanced space-based observations not only unique to Japan but also by international collaboration. In particular, in the field of planetary upper atmospheric science, which plays a key role in Heliospheric system exploration, ISAS aims to understand the current state of various planetary upper atmospheres, including the thin exospheric atmospheres of the Moon and Mercury, and to elucidate their origins and evolution.</p> <p>ISAS has achieved significant results through ultraviolet spectroscopic observations using the Planetary Telescope “Hisaki” satellite. Currently, discussions are underway regarding the LAPYUTA mission, which is the successor to Hisaki, whose operations have been discontinued. Furthermore, discussions are being held regarding Japan's participation in the HWO, a NASA-lead future huge mission, utilizing the ultraviolet spectroscopic observation technology for planetary upper atmospheres that has been developed in Japan. Under these circumstances, the Department of Solar</p>

System Sciences is seeking a researcher who can take a central role in the development of related onboard science instruments and simultaneously can play a central role in the planning and execution of solar system science exploration.

The duties of the associate professor position being recruited for this time are as follows.

- (1) In collaboration with universities and research institutions outside ISAS, serve as the driving force behind the LAPYUTA mission and the participation in HWO mission, and lead the development of the science instruments necessary for these missions.
- (2) Strategically develop observation technologies necessary for observing planetary upper atmospheres, including exoplanets, beyond the LAPYUTA and HWO missions.
- (3) Play a central role in the planning and execution of the solar system science exploration missions, which includes the scientific exploration of planetary upper atmospheres.

In order to carry out the above duties, the Associate Professor to be recruited this time must meet at least the following conditions.

- (1) He/she has a high academic record and research experience in the field of Heliospheric system science (solar physics, magnetospheric plasma physics, or planetary atmospheric science) that is recognized both domestically and internationally, and have a passion for promoting solar system science exploration.
- (2) He/she has an experience of developing science instruments onboard scientific satellites as a key member of the development team in the field of Heliospheric system science.
- (3) He/she has the ability to demonstrate leadership in planning and carrying out future solar system science explorations.

		<p>(4) He/she has the ability to leverage his/her expertise beyond his/her specialized field, with an eye toward the future of Heliospheric system science.</p> <p>(5) He/she has the ability to educate and mentor graduate students.</p> <p>ISAS/JAXA functions as a hub for the space science activities in Japan. While ISAS is a science institute of Japanese space agency JAXA, it is also embedded in the collaboration network among Japanese universities. Flight projects are the keys to promoting space science. In the network, ISAS, teaming up with other JAXA members as well as academic members outside JAXA, plays the special role of materializing flight projects. Thus, ISAS members are expected to play vital roles in running the projects. We are looking for a highly motivated staff who can carry out his/her academic research in a project-oriented style, in collaboration with university researchers under the inter-university framework. Active participation in various JAXA projects and R&Ds to demonstrate his/her academic expertise is also expected. Human resource development for future space development and utilization is anticipated as natural outcome of the above-mentioned activities.</p> <p><Scope of changes> Scope of job defined by the agency.</p>
10.	Benefits and Conditions	<p>(1) Salary Salary will be determined under the provision of JAXA wage rules and regulations, considering qualifications and experience.</p> <p>(2) Working Hours In principle, the Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work shall be applied. Working hours are basically from 9:30-17:45. The break time shall be 45 minutes if the working hours per day exceed 6 hours, and 1 hour if the working hours exceed 8 hours. Regardless of the above, those who apply the Discretionary Labor System for Professional Work shall have a deemed working hour of 7 hours and 45minutes per day. Overtime work may be required depending on the work situation.</p> <p>(3) Holidays Saturdays and Sundays, National Holidays, New Year Holidays (December 29th - January 3rd), others when JAXA deems it necessary, etc.</p>

		<p>(4) Vacation and Leave Paid Annual leave, WLB (Work Life Balance) annual leave, celebration or condolence leave, maternity leave, child-care leave, care leave, nursing leave, etc.</p> <p>(5) Retirement Age Retirement age is 65.</p> <p>(6) Accommodations Depending on business necessity, individual situation, and vacancy status, either single or family accommodation will be provided, or a housing allowance will be issued according to the agency's regulations. However, the period of availability for the same housing is limited to 7 years.</p> <p>(7) Social insurance Several types of social insurances (health insurance, pension plan, etc.) will be provided.</p>
11.	Research Funding	<p>Research funding is determined according to the budget situation of each year.</p> <p>*FY2025: Professor; ¥800,000, Associate professor; ¥800,000, Assistant professor; ¥400,000</p>
12.	Required Qualifications	PhD degree in Science or Engineering
13.	Application Documents	<p>(1) Curriculum vitae</p> <p>(2) Research history and summary</p> <p>(3) List of published papers (with DOIs)</p> <p>(4) List of awarded research funds through competition. Specify a type of funding, amount, and a role (e.g. principal investigator/co-investigator)</p> <p>(5) Future research plan (including contribution to the JAXA projects and commitment to educational activities)</p> <p>(6) Declaration of past criminal penalties, administrative penalties, disciplinary measures, etc., including sexual harassment, assault and violence (Disclose all penalties on freeform, can also be stated in (1) CV.)</p> <p>(7) Names, affiliations and contact details (phone numbers and email addresses) of two individuals who can provide opinion about the candidate.</p> <p>(8) Copies of major research papers (up to 5) published in peer-reviewed or refereed academic journals</p>
14.	Submission	Applicants are required to apply via the following website. Please access the application form at the following URL:

		https://isas-appli-form.jaxa.jp/forms1/1756694279 (Notes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the documents must be submitted in PDF format. • Note that documents (2) to (6) should be merged into one PDF file. • Application delivered in person or by mail shall not be accepted.
15.	Application Deadline	November 5 th , 2025, noon (JST) • Data entry and submission of all the required documents must be completed by this deadline through the website.
16.	Screening Method	Screening will be conducted by the Advisory Council for Research and Management of ISAS, JAXA. The council will conduct a document screening, and interview those who have passed the document screening. This process is subject to change.
17.	Contact Information	Director of Department of Solar System Sciences Prof. Yoshifumi Saito Email: saito.yoshifumi [at]jaxa.jp For inquiries regarding application submission as in section 14: Human Resources Section / Management and Integration Department E-mail: ISAS-JINJI [at]ml.jaxa.jp * *Please replace [at] in the email address with @.
18.	Name of Recruiter	Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
19.	Others	(1) Information submitted in your application documents will not be used for any purpose other than the employment selection. Once the selection process is complete, we will securely dispose of all application documents and personal information, except for those submitted by the successful candidate. (2) In order to properly implement security export control based on Japan's Foreign Exchange and Foreign Exchange Act, it is necessary to submit a declaration pertaining to "Specific category" regulated by the act. Depending on the contents of the declaration, necessary adjustment for appropriate duties such as scope of secondary careers could be made. (3) Please also check the notes on JAXA website* before applying. * https://global.jaxa.jp/about/employ/index.html