

Niigata University ‘Swing-by’ Program for Fostering Young Faculty Members

(Recruitment and Training Program for Young Faculty Members)

Call for applications for Assistant Professors in Institute of Science and Technology, Niigata University

Niigata University is implementing the "Niigata University Young Faculty Swing-by Program," a program for the collective recruitment and training of young faculty members, targeting outstanding young researchers who are active in a variety of fields in Japan and overseas. This program is designed to foster researchers who are willing to conduct cross-disciplinary research at the university while deepening their research in their respective fields of specialization.

In the Young Faculty Swing-by Program, we will recruit young faculty members from across disciplines. Recruits will be selected through a first round of selection based on their expertise in their respective fields, followed by a second round of selection based on comprehensive perspectives by the executive officers. The selected faculty members will be affiliated with the academic departments, etc., according to their fields of expertise, and will concurrently serve in the Institute for Research Administration, which is in charge of promoting research at Niigata University, and will be engaged in activities to bring forth the seeds of new interdisciplinary research that can become the new flagship of Niigata University.

Research Field for Recruitment

Environmental management, New fields of law(Intellectual Property Law), Corporate Finance, Agronomy, Urban planning and design, Chemical biology, Behavioral ecology, Life science(Virology, Social Psychiatry for Mothers and Children, Div of Bio-Tissue Engineering, Bioregulatory Science, Radiological technology), Interdisciplinary Research on Brain Pathology

Number of Positions

Around 10 persons expected

As a part of this recruitment, we are recruiting faculty members in charge of the Behavioral ecology field.

1. Job Type

Assistant Professor (Permanent Faculty Position)

2. Expected Date of Joining

April 1, 2026

3. Affiliation

Institute of Science and Technology, Faculty of Earth and Biological Sciences

The selected candidate is required to carry out teaching and research in the Institute of Science and Technology, Faculty of Earth and Biological Sciences, and, will also be appointed to work concurrently at the Institute for Research Administration. As a general rule, you will be working as a faculty member employed in the Swing-by Program concurrently with the Institute for Research Administration for three years from the time of hiring.

4. Job Description

[Affiliation] Faculty of Science/Graduate School of Science and Technology/Graduate School of Integrated Arts and Sciences(tentative name, scheduled to open in April 2026)

[Job Description]

1. Research: Based on the expertise in behavioral ecology, the candidate will work with our faculty members to elucidate the evolution of wildlife behavior and its relationship to environmental changes caused by human activities. In collaboration with faculty members of the Faculty of Agriculture, Sado Island Center for Ecological Sustainability, and the Research Institute for Natural Hazards and Disaster Recovery, the candidate will be engaged in research aimed at achieving comprehensive understanding and practice through multifaceted approaches, from behavioral evolution of wild animals to the establishment of coexistence systems with nature.
2. Education: The position involves teaching at both the Bachelor's and Master's levels in the Faculty of Science (Program of Field Research in the Environmental Sciences) and the Department of Environmental Science, Graduate School of Science and Technology (Course of Field Research in the Environmental Sciences). Further, the candidate will contribute to the development of core leaders and professionals who will play an active role in addressing biodiversity crises and other local environmental issues. The candidate may be required to teach lectures, practical training, and other courses related to basic biology and animal ecology.

[Research Field]

Biology at organismal to population levels and anthropology, and related fields;
Environmental conservation measure and related fields;
Agricultural and environmental biology and related fields;
Forestry and forest products science, applied aquatic science, and related fields:
especially ethology, evolutionary biology, social-ecological systems, conservation biology, environmental sciences, etc. related to wild animals

[Remarks Column for Assistant Professor] PI

5. Qualifications

- (1) As a general rule, those who have obtained his/her PhD degree in his/her field of research within the past 10 years. (Including those who are expected to obtain his/her PhD degree by the date of appointment). Any nationality is acceptable, but those who is expected to have Japanese language skills to the extent that it does not interfere with the work.

- (2) Those who have a proven track record of research in the above-mentioned specialized fields and are willing to conduct cross-disciplinary and interdisciplinary research.
- (3) Those who have published at least one SCI paper as the first author and at least three SCI papers including co-authored papers. Those who have a record of having been accepted as a representative for external funds such as a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (including JSPS Postdoctoral Fellowship DC, PD, RPD) are desirable.
- (4) Those who understand the purpose of the Swing-by Program and are willing and able to work on it.
- (5) Those who are able to live in Niigata City or its suburbs, and carry out his/her duty after being hired.

6. Terms of Employment

- (1) Work Location: 8050 Ikarashi 2-no-cho, Nishi-ku, Niigata, Niigata, Japan
- (2) Salary: Annual salary system based on “Regulations for New Annual Salary System for Faculties of Niigata University,” and other benefits as per the University rules and regulations
- (3) Employment Type:
 - Employment time : Basically, discretionary labor system for specialized work (deemed working hours: 7 hours and 45 minutes a day).
If the professional business-type recruiting labor system is not applied, a fixed working hour system will be applied, with a weekly working hour of 38 hours and 45 minutes and a daily working hour of 8:30 am to 5:15 pm (break time: 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm).
Whether a discretionary work system or a fixed working hour system is applied will be determined at the time of hiring.
 - Holidays : Saturdays, Sundays, national holidays, holidays around the end of the year and the beginning of the year, etc.
- (4) Health insurance: Provided by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Mutual Aid Association, Employment Insurance, Industrial Accident Compensation Insurance
- (5) Working environment: Provision of own personal office and laboratory:
Yes (area given is undetermined)

7. Support for Nurturing Young Researchers

In order to take advantage of the Swing-by Program, which is a collective recruitment system that transcends fields, we ask that you concurrently serve at the Institute for Research Administration for the first three years after your appointment and engage in the following activities

- To proactively develop networks across departments and disciplines.
- To conduct interdisciplinary exchange activities utilizing the established network and disseminate the results widely inside and outside the university.

In order to realize the above, the following activities and others are included.

- Planning and management of employer synchronization meetings and interdisciplinary exchange meetings

- At least once a year, exchange of opinions with the president and board members
- Training on teaching methods at universities

In addition, the University has the following research support systems, which we expect you to make active use of.

- Niigata University equipment sharing system
- Support for obtaining external funds such as 'Kakenhi'
- Regular interdisciplinary exchange meetings
- Allocation of start-up research funds from the Swing-by Program
- Other training for education and research activities

8. Application Documents

Online submission in JREC-IN Portal. If you have difficulty applying online, please send the following documents by mail.

In this call, researchmap, ORCID iD, and ReserchGate will be used to check the list of achievements, acquisition of external funding, and major publications.

- (1) Curriculum Vitae (You must paste your photograph for personal identification. You must also include your date of birth).

In the "Awards and Penalties" section of your resume, please provide not only awards and criminal penalties, but also any past disciplinary actions taken against students due to sexual harassment or sexual violence, and if applicable, the specific reasons that led to such actions. If there is no column for "Awards and Disciplinary Punishments," please indicate in Remarks, etc. whether there were any awards or disciplinary punishments and the reasons for them.

In the unlikely event that there is any misrepresentation of your career history, your employment may be cancelled or you may be subject to disciplinary action.

- (2) Overview of your current and past research activities as well as your future educational and research interests if hired by Niigata University, which should be approximately 1,500 words.
- (3) A publication list. Please list your publications by categories, such as dissertation, peer-reviewed papers/reviews and their impact factors and quartiles (Q1-Q4) of Journal Citation Reports (JCR) for articles in the Web of Science Core Collection, books (indicating whether they are peer-reviewed or not), international conference presentations, invited lectures, academic awards, patents, and other outstanding achievements. Three major papers are marked with ©.
- (4) Status of acquisition of external funding. Please indicate whether you are a principal researcher or a co-investigator, as well as the total amount of research funds and the amount allocated.
- (5) If you have teaching experience, a list of courses for which you have been in charge (name of course, name of educational institution, and year in charge), and the number of undergraduate graduation research and master's and doctoral students for each year of completion (limited to cases in which yourself has provided substantial guidance).
- (6) Contact information, including the email address of two referees who can independently provide an opinion on your academic achievements, character, and conduct.

*If applying by mail, please also send

(7) Printouts or copies of up to three major research publications.

*You may be required to submit additional documents if necessary.

Please confirm that all the required documents are included in an envelope. Outside the envelope please specify clearly in red ink “Enclosed the application documents for ‘Swing-by’ Program for Behavioral ecology (Institute of Natural Science and Technology, Faculty of Earth and Biological Sciences)”, and send it to the address shown below by registered post or courier service (in a way which allows you to confirm that your application has been received by us).

*Application documents will not be returned and will be handled with strict confidentiality. Your personal information obtained by Niigata University in the process of the recruitment will be properly handled based on “Act on the Protection of Personal Information”, and will not be used for any purpose other than the selection process.

9. Screening and Selection Schedule

(1) Application Deadline : Must be received by 5:00 pm, August 18, 2025 (JST).

(2) First screening : Late August to early September 2025, followed by a document screening and an interview of shortlisted candidates (an on-site or online interview might be conducted).

(3) Notification of the result of the first selection: October, 2025

(4) Schedule for final screening: Scheduled from October to November 2025.
Interview by University President and board members (Online interview might be conducted).

(5) Notification of the result:

Applicants will be notified of the result after the selection process is over.

* The applicant must bear all costs relating to the selection process, such as travel expenses and accommodation fees.

10. Contact Information:

For any further information, please contact us by e-mail.

(1) Applications should be submitted to:

General Affairs Division, Institute of Science and Technology, Niigata University
Address: 8050 Ikarashi 2-no-cho, Nishi-ku, Niigata, Niigata, Japan
TEL: 025-262-6823
FAX: 025-262-7940
E-Mail: skei-shomu@adm.niigata-u.ac.jp

11. Inquiries Regarding the Content of the Work:

Please contact us by e-mail, unless otherwise the matter is urgent.

(1) Inquiry: Prof. Meiji HONDA,
Institute of Natural Science and Technology, Niigata University
E-mail: meiji@env.sc.niigata-u.ac.jp

12. Others

*Niigata University has set up the “Center for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion” in our campus, and is firmly committed to gender balance and supporting physically handicapped researchers (<https://diversity.nu.niigata-u.ac.jp/>).

*Niigata University is promoting hiring of faculty members who have a flexible attitude in today’s global society and to realize the globalization of our campus. We welcome applications from foreigners who can communicate with researchers and students in English. Japanese communication skill will be an added advantage, but not an essential condition for the application.

*From the perspective of promoting diversity and inclusion in Niigata University, preference will be given to female and non-Japanese researchers when they are deemed equal in the evaluation of their achievements (including educational achievements, research achievements, social contributions, and personal characteristics).