

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 Graduate School of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences / Medical Sciences, Department of Neurophysiology, 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

Science communication, Medical-Criminal Law, Informational Sociology of Disaster, Food-Tech Science, Structure engineering and earthquake engineering-related (Applied mechanics, Computational mechanics), Inorganic chemistry, Nonsmooth Optimization, Life science (Department of Neurophysiology, Virology, Div of Eating Behavior–Health Interface, Tissue Regenerative Science, Clinical nursing science), 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 Life science (Department of Neurophysiology) field.

1. Job Type

Assistant Professor (fixed-term). The term of appointment is up to five years and is renewable once for an additional term of up to five years. In principle, the total period of employment shall not exceed ten years from the date of the initial appointment at Niigata University. This limitation may be waived in exceptional cases based on the appointee's performance after appointment, subject to the University's internal regulations.

2. Expected Date of Joining

April 1, 2027

3. Affiliation

Faculty of Medicine, Institute of Medicine and Dentistry

Selected candidate is required to carry out teaching and research in the Faculty of Medicine, Institute of Medicine and Dentistry, and, will be also 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 Medicine / Graduate School of Medicine, Dentistry and Health Sciences

[Job Description]

- Teaching physiology
- Promoting research on higher brain functions of the cerebral cortex
- Facilitating interdisciplinary research centered on animal experiments

[Research Field] Neurophysiology

[Remarks Column for Assistant Professor] The successful candidate will initially work as a member of a research group and is expected to establish an independent research program as a principal investigator (PI) in the future.

5. Qualifications

(1) As a general rule, applicants must have obtained a doctoral degree in the relevant field within the past 10 years, or be expected to obtain such a degree by the date of appointment.

(2) Applicants must have demonstrated ability and enthusiasm for teaching and research in neurophysiology, as well as a proven record of obtaining competitive external research funding, such as Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI). Experience and technical skills in behavioral experiments using non-human primates, chronic electrophysiological experiments, and data analysis are desirable.

(3) Applicants must have strong foreign-language ability and be able to engage in international exchange and communication with researchers across a broad range of fields.

(4) Applicants must understand the objectives of the SWING-BY Program and be willing and able to actively participate in the program.

(5) Applicants must be able to reside in Niigata City or its surrounding area and perform their duties after appointment.

6. Terms of Employment

(1) Work Location: Asahimachi Campus, Niigata University (1-757 Asahimachi-dori, Chuo-ku, Niigata City, 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 hours of 38 hours and 45 minutes and a daily working hours 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: A shared research office/laboratory will be provided.

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 will be used to check the list of achievements, acquisition of external funding, and major publications.

- (1) Curriculum Vitae (Form 1)

*The applicant's signature and a recent photograph are required. Please also include the degree(s) obtained, the awarding institution(s), and the date(s) of degree conferral.

*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 or not 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) List of Educational and Research Achievements (Form 2)

*Please provide information on external research funding obtained during the past five years, including Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI), in the section "Record of External Research Funding."

*Items (1) and (2) should be prepared in accordance with the Instructions for Completing the Curriculum Vitae and List of Educational and Research Achievements.

(3) Statement of Past Achievements and Future Plans for Education and Research (approximately 2,000 characters (in Japanese), equivalent to approximately 2–3 A4 pages; no prescribed format)

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

*Please confirm that all the required documents are included in an envelope. Outside the envelop please specify clearly in red ink “Enclosed the application documents for ‘Swing-by’ program for Neurophysiology”, 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 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 : Monday, August 3, 2026, 5:00 p.m. (JST) (applications must be received by this deadline)

(2) First screening : Late August to late September 2026. Screening of application documents and interview of shortlisted candidate. Interviews will be held on Monday, September 28, 2026, between 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. (JST).

(3) Notification of the result of the first selection: Early October 2026

(4) Schedule for final screening: October–November 2026 (tentative).

Interview by University President and board members (Online interview might be conducted).

(5) Notification of the result:

Applicants will be notified individually once the final decision has been made.

* Applicants are responsible for all expenses related to the selection process, including travel and accommodation costs.

10. Contact Information:

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

(1) Applications should be submitted to: General Affairs Section, Institute of Medicine and Dentistry, Niigata University

Address: 1-757 Asahimachi-dori, Chuo-ku, Niigata City, Niigata 951-8510, Japan

TEL: +81-25-227-2004

FAX: +81-25-227-0715

E-mail: jinji@med.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: Inquiry: Isao Hasegawa, Neurophysiology, School of Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Niigata University

TEL: +81-25-227-2064

E-mail: isaohasegawa@med.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.