

FY2026 RIHN Invited Scholar Program

Aim of the RIHN Invited Scholar Program

The RIHN **Invited Scholar Program** enables overseas researchers to spend between one and three months at RIHN and to contribute to the development of the Institute's intellectual foundations and strategic directions. **This is not an open application. Invited Scholars are selected based on nomination by RIHN faculty members who act as their host.**

Selection Criteria

1. Can the candidate in the proposed role be expected to provide strategic overview of the relevance of their disciplinary or interdisciplinary studies to RIHN's engagement in global environmental studies?
2. Does the proposal concretely indicate how the candidate will contribute to the development of the intellectual foundation and strategic direction of RIHN?
3. Are previous achievements and experiences of the candidate distinguished and relevant to contribute to the development of RIHN?
4. Has sufficient consultation between the candidate and the host researcher taken place prior to application?

Period of Stay at RIHN

The period of stay ranges from one month up to three months, within the fiscal year 2026 (July 1, 2026-March 25, 2027).

Expectations and Duties

Invited Scholars are expected to contribute to the development of the Institute's intellectual foundations and strategic directions. This can be done in many ways, including lectures, seminars, collaborative research, participation in RIHN events and providing concrete feedback and advice.

Invited Scholars are also expected to:

1. Give two seminars: (1) A review seminar at the beginning of the stay at RIHN that provides an overview of a Scholar's field of expertise and its relevance to global environmental studies and RIHN research; (2) A concluding seminar at the end of the stay that includes discussion of the insights gained at RIHN.
2. Allocate some time for individual consultation with early-career researchers
3. Submit a short report including suggestions to RIHN after the stay

RIHN Invited Scholars Nominating Information (FY2026)

Eligibility

Candidates must have a Ph.D. or equivalent qualification/experience and concurrently be employed in an overseas research institute as home institution. The program is open to researchers based outside of Japan (including those with Japanese nationality) and researchers based in Japan with a nationality other than Japanese. Candidates are nominated by RIHN faculty members and selected competitively.

Stipend

A stipend is paid monthly according to the regulations of RIHN ranging from 381,000 to 670,000 JPY. 20.42% of income tax will be deducted from the salary according to the Japanese law.

Insurance

If a Scholar meets certain requirements for working period (*) or age, he/she is required to join **social insurance** (including health insurance, long-term care insurance, pension insurance) and **employment insurance**. These insurance fees will be around 15.5% (including 0.55% of employment insurance) of the salary. If he/she is from countries that have concluded a social security agreement with Japan, he/she will be exempt from this by submitting after his/her arrival in Japan the required document which must be obtained in his/her country before traveling to Japan.

In principle, RIHN strongly recommends that a Scholar take out travel insurance etc. at home country before traveling to Japan.

* If a Scholar is employed by RIHN for two months or less, he/she will NOT be enrolled in the abovementioned social insurance and employment insurance at RIHN. In such case, he/she is requested to join travel insurance from his/her country.

Travel expenses etc.

Travel expenses for one round trip economy-class ticket between the area of residence or affiliation of the Invited Scholar and RIHN will be reimbursed according to the rules and regulations of RIHN.

Research Support Allowance

A research support allowance of 150,000 JPY is available to cover collaborative research-related expenses.

Accommodation

The RIHN House, located on the Institute premises, is available for accommodation at the Scholar's expense.

RIHN Invited Scholars Nominating Information (FY2026)

Working Hours and Holidays

Invited Scholars are treated as faculty members employed by the National Institutes for Humanities (NIHU). A discretionary labor system* is applied for working hours.

Invited Scholar are entitled to a paid vacation from 2 days up to 5 days according to the length of stay. Telecommuting must be applied for and approved by the Personnel Subsection after specifying the intended days at least two weeks in advance. Telecommuting may not exceed 40% of the weekdays in a given month.

* It establishes a de facto total of working hours in advance, for which researchers are then paid regardless of the actual number of hours worked. In RIHN's system, the de facto total of working hours is 7 hours and 45 mins per day, 38 hours and 45 mins per week, and researchers are asked to sign in when coming to the Institute.

Application procedures

Invited Scholars are selected competitively following nomination by RIHN faculty.

*For more information, please email your prospective host at RIHN (faculty member at RIHN).

Selection Schedule

Selection of Invited Scholars takes place during the months of January to March 2026. The International Affairs Subsection will notify the result of selection to every applicant by the end of March 2026. Please note that selection of candidates is competitive and subject to budget availability. RIHN cannot respond to inquiries about the method of selection and details of the selection process.

Friday, September 11, 2025, ~ Friday, December 12, 2025	Nomination Host completes the nomination forms. Forms and related guidelines are available to RIHN faculty.
Friday, December 12, 2025	Deadline for nominations Documents must be sent via e-mail from the host researcher to the International Affairs Subsection (kokusai@chikyu.ac.jp) at RIHN, no later than this date.
December, 2025	Notification of receipt of recommendations will be sent to every nominating host by email.
December 2025 - March, 2026	Review and selection RIHN examines the nomination documents and selects the Invited Scholars at the selection meeting.

RIHN Invited Scholars Nominating Information (FY2026)

Late March, 2026	Official Notification The International Affairs Subsection will notify the selected Invited Scholars of the result with an invitation letter. RIHN cannot respond to inquiries about the selection until the official notification.
From April, 2026	Selected Invited Scholars will receive detailed information about the relevant procedures from the International Affairs Subsection. (Arrangements for coming to Japan start around three months before arrival.)
From July, 2026	Invited Scholars will come to Japan to start their research.

For further information, please contact:

International Affairs Subsection, Research Support Section,
Administrative Office, RIHN
Email: kokusai@chikyu.ac.jp Tel: +81-75-707-2152