

[Advance Notice]

Changes to the Application Guidelines for the 2025 Fiscal Year Basic Science Research Grant

Thank you for the many applications we receive each year for the Basic Science Research Grant. This grant, provided by a private foundation for basic science research, has been ongoing for over 30 years without significant changes to its basic content. However, for the 2025 fiscal year, we plan to introduce new changes, such as setting an eligible age for applicants. The application period will begin on April 15, as usual, but we are informing those considering applying in advance, in light of the potential impact of these changes.

(Note) For the final details of the changes, please refer to the 2025 Basic Science Research Grant Application Guidelines, which will be posted on our website in early April 2025.

1. Main Changes

- ① The eligible age for applicants will be 45 years or younger (with consideration for research interruptions due to life events).
- ② Applicants must specify one of the following fields: "Mathematics," "Physics," "Chemistry," or "Biology" (The distribution of grant amounts across the fields, except for "Mathematics," will generally be equal).
- ③ The grant amount will be decided without reducing the requested amount (the maximum grant amount is 5 million yen). Additionally, the total grant amount will be increased by 50 million yen from the previous fiscal year to 200 million yen.

2. Purpose of the Changes

The changes are intended to achieve the following goals:

- Clearly define the eligible age range to ensure that the grant benefits genuinely young researchers.
- Correct imbalances in the allocation of grants across research fields and equalize the grant amounts for each field, contributing to the balanced development of basic science.
- Provide sufficient grant funding without reducing the requested amount, ensuring that researchers can carry out their projects as planned.

3. Points to Consider When Applying

- ① For research in boundary areas or involving multiple fields, applicants will still need to specify one of the fields mentioned above when submitting their application.
- ② While the requested amount will not be reduced, please ensure that the research plan and the requested amount are supported by a valid breakdown of expenses.