

NIHN Fellowship Program for Asian Researchers 2026—2027

1. Objectives

This program is hosted by the National Institute of Health and Nutrition (NIHN), National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition (NIBN), and conducted as a part of activities of WHO Collaborating Centre for Nutrition and Physical Activity (JPN-88). It aims to promote international collaboration between Asian countries and to support fellows to acquire and improve their knowledge and skills related to health and nutrition.

2. Areas of Interest

The research of the Fellowship Program should be related to the following topics.

- 1) Nutrition surveillance
- 2) Physical activity surveillance

Available data

- Publicly available data such as government statistics,
- Data that a fellowship researcher can access and analyze at the NIHN in Japan, and
- Other available data (to be discussed).

Research conducted by the NIHN departments and centers

Please refer to the NIBN Leaflet (English), pages 23-32 in the followings: “Food and Nutrition”, “Physical Activity and Metabolism”, and “International Research Collaboration and Partnership.” (please see the link)

[Pamphlet | National Institutes of Biomedical Innovation, Health and Nutrition](#)

3. Eligibility

Eligible applicants should fulfill at least one of the requirements below, with sufficient communication skills in English, and are expected to play a key role in the related field after the fellowship program.

- 1) Non-Japanese people who are studying or working outside Japan at a university, research institute, or other institutes in the health and nutrition field, and have a doctorate degree, or research capabilities at least equivalent to a doctorate degree holder.
- 2) Non-Japanese medical doctors, dentists, nurses, dietitians, pharmacists, or government officers who have sufficient research capabilities and are nominated by the principal of their institute for outstanding achievement.
- 3) An applicant who is admitted by the President of the NIBN.

4. Number of Fellowships to be Awarded

One or two

5. Outline of the Program

1) Duration

April 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027

2) Fellowship period

Fellowships are awarded for 3 months. No extension of the period will be permitted.

3) Commencement Date

The fellowship must commence during the following period

May 1, 2026, to December 1, 2026

4) Coverage of Expenses

a. Travel expense

Round-trip economy class air tickets, from the international airport nearest to the selected fellow's institute to Kansai Airport, at the lowest available cost, are provided.

The transportation fee between Kansai Airport and the NIHN will be provided in cash (Japanese yen) or by train tickets according to the NIBN's rule of the travel expenses.

b. Stipends and accommodation

The NIBN will provide 100,000 Japanese yen per month to each fellow as stipends, which include commuting costs, meals, and petty expenses.

The NIBN will arrange accommodation and pay the rent for each fellow (depending on circumstances, this arrangement will be entrusted to a third party). Other expenses are occasionally covered by the fellow in line with the lease agreement.

c. Overseas Travel Insurance

The NIBN will pay for overseas travel accident and sickness insurance during the fellowship period.

d. Others

- The NIBN will not pay any expenses related to accompanying person (s).
- In case the fellowship program is implemented online due to the circumstances at the time, the expenses (a) to (c) will not be covered.

5) Obligation for Research Reports

Each fellow must submit a research report in the required forms to the NIHN within one month of the completion of the fellowship period.

6. Application Procedure

1) Acceptance of Application

Applicants must submit their applications as described in 6-(2) by email to the contact address (9. Contact) during the following period:

November 20 (Thursday), 2025, to February 27 (Friday), 2026

2) Materials to be submitted

a. Applications for Fellowship (Form I -1)

b. Curriculum Vitae (free format)

*Required items: title, name, date of birth, ID photo, nationality, contact information (address, telephone number, e-mail address, etc.), name and position of affiliation, institution information (address, telephone number), academic background, professional experience, professional qualifications, English language proficiency (IELTS, TOEIC, TOEFL, etc.), other skills and abilities (if any), and a list of publications.

c. Research activities during the fellowship program (free format)

d. Letter of recommendation by the head of the institute to which the applicant belongs. (free format)

7. Selection Process and Notification

The President of the NIBN will select the fellow in coordination with WHO.

Online interviews will be conducted in English with applicants as necessary.

Notification of the selection results will be made to all applicants by the Secretariat by **March 31, 2026**.

The research activities and the fellowship period will be determined in consultation with the host researcher.

(N.B. The NIBN does not respond to any individual inquiry on the selection process)

8. Notes:

1) Incomplete or otherwise flawed applications will be rejected. Refusal letters to such unsuccessful applicants shall be issued at the same time as other applicants.

2) Then, the accepted applicant (awardees) will sign and submit to the responsible person for this fellowship program, the notice of acceptance and the letter of commitment, with the medical certificate prepared at a medical institution. After receiving all these necessary documents, the President of the NIBN will issue the letter of invitation to the accepted applicant.

3) Upon the consent of the selected fellows, their names and research themes are subject to public disclosure through the NIHJN homepage.

4) The program will take place at NIHJN located in Settsu City, Osaka Prefecture.

9. Contact

National Institute of Health and Nutrition

National Institutes of Biomedical Innovations, Health and Nutrition

Kento Innovation Park NK building, 3-17 Senriokashimmachi, Settsu, Osaka
566-0002 JAPAN

Responsible person for this Fellowship program is:

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Head

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