

Screening of applications for the University of Tsukuba Basic Research Support Program in FY 2017 (Type A)

Screening of applications for the University of Tsukuba Basic Research Support Program is conducted in accordance with the following procedures and methods:

I. Procedures and methods for screening

(1) Screening of application documents

Screening of application documents is conducted by members of the research promotion conference and other committee members (screening committee members).

Screening committee members conducted comprehensive evaluation of application documents from a broad perspective, focusing on the elements of Appendix: “Criteria for evaluation in screening”.

(2) Selection of candidate research subjects to be accepted

The vice president in charge of research select candidate research projects to be accepted to fulfill the objective of the program, based on the results of screening of application documents conducted by screening committee members, according to the following table:

If the scores of two research subjects on the borderline are the same, consideration will be given to research subjects submitted by female researchers.

Priority is placed on the acceptance of applications submitted by researchers who have applied for external funds provided by the Strategic Basic Research Programs (PRESTO) of the JST and other organizations.

Classification	Evaluation
A	Accepted as a candidate
B	Accepted as a candidate depending on the situation
C	Rejected

(3) Adoption of research subjects

Research subjects are adopted from candidate research subjects at a research promotion meeting to fulfill the objective of the program.

II. Others

(1) Publication

1) To ensure the transparency and fairness of screening, information on the numbers of applications and adopted research subjects, as well as the details of research subjects will be published. Applicants will be informed of an assessment ranking of submitted research subjects as feedback.

2) The results of screening (accepted research subjects) will be open to public by their publication on the website.

(2) Exclusion of interested people

Screening committee members involved in a research subject must be excluded from their screening and evaluation (screening of application documents), as well as specific deliberations, discussions, and making decisions on the subjects at meetings.

If it is difficult for screening committee members to conduct neutral and fair screening, consideration will be given to each individual situation.

(3) Confidentiality

- Committee members must not disclose personal and other information related to screening obtained through its process.
- Committee members must separate information obtained as a committee members (including the application and other documents) from other information, and manage it under a duty of care as good managers.

Appendix

Criteria for evaluation in screening

The following are criteria for the evaluation of each item in screening:

*References in the application are written within the brackets ().

[Type A]

- I. Research subjects and objectives (“Purpose of this study”)
 - 1) Novel ideas, originality, and renovation
 - 2) Specific and clear presentation of research concepts and objectives
- II. Validity of research plans and methods (“Research plans and methods”)

Well-developed research plans to fulfill the objectives of research
- III. Expected research results (“Expected research results”)

Research expected to generate outstanding results
- IV. Expenditure for which applications are submitted (“Breakdown of research expenses”)
 - Consistency between “research objectives, plans, and methods” and expenditure, as well as its effective use
 - Expenditure to purchase equipment that is really necessary to implement the research plan
 - Confirmation of the validity of expenditure to implement the research plan if the expense of equipment accounts for more than 50% of the total expenditure.
- V. Research achievements and awards (“Research achievements and awards” and “Appeals of your previous research achievements”)

Previous achievements and awards to suggest that the researcher has excellent research skills required to implement the research plan.

Classification	Evaluation
4	Excellent
3	Good
2	Inadequate
1	Poor

VI. General evaluation

General evaluation of the research subject, with a focus on the following points, is conducted based on the above-mentioned evaluation items (I to V) including the appeals and evaluation results:

- 1) Research conducted independently based on innovative ideas and free thinking
- 2) Adoption of research plans from a wide variety of fields, rather than specific academic disciplines and research fields, regardless of the scale of the plan, taking into consideration the future and development of plans.

Classification	Evaluation	Approximate distribution of scores
5	Significantly excellent	10% of the total
4	Excellent	20% of the total
3	Good	40% of the total
2	Fair	20% of the total
1	Poor	10% of the total