

AY 2027 Call for
Joint Usage/Joint Research Projects (Early-Career Challenge Program)
Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA)
Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

The Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (hereinafter referred to as ILCAA) (the Joint Usage/Research Center “International Research Center for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa”) is calling for proposals for ILCAA Joint Usage/Joint Research Projects (Early-Career Challenge Program), subject to the following conditions. This program has been newly established to support early-career researchers in pursuing joint usage/joint research projects and requires that the applicant be conducting a joint usage/joint research project as a coordinator for the first time.

Persons who wish to conduct joint usage/joint research projects must prepare the necessary documents, such as the Application Form for ILCAA Joint Usage/Joint Research Projects and a list of project members, and submit their application.

1. Requirements for Joint Usage/Joint Research Projects

- 1) The projects must concern Asia and/or Africa.
- 2) The area of the research projects must fall under linguistics, cultural anthropology, history, or area studies. The project concerning the following research themes, which the Institute has been predominantly dealing with since AY2022, will be welcomed. However, other themes will not be excluded.
 - [Elucidating Polarization and Symbiosis in Transcultural Contexts: Building a Platform for “Sharing” and “Dialogue” of Humanities Knowledge with People in Asia and Africa.](#)
 - [Description and Documentation of Language Dynamics in Asia and Africa: Toward a More In-depth Understanding of the Languages and Cultures of People Living in Asia and Africa \(DDDLing\)](#)
 - [Anthropological Inquiry of Sociality: Dynamics of Tolerance/Intolerance in Transcultural Contexts](#)
 - [Field Archiving of Memory: Dynamics of Cooperation in Muslim Society](#)
 - Construction of theories related to field sciences
 - Research based on the utilization of digital archives
- 3) If you choose research based on the utilization of digital archives as the theme, please check the box in the application form (Application Form for Joint Usage/Joint Research Project (Early-Career Challenge Program) (Form 1)).

- 4) Each project must include one or more ILCAA research staff members and clearly indicate the roles of the coordinator (※1), co-coordinator, participating ILCAA research staff members, and joint researchers (※2).

※1 The coordinator role can be assigned only to a research staff member or a joint researcher at ILCAA.

※2 Joint researchers refer to researchers outside ILCAA who jointly conduct research in accordance with the research plans of ILCAA and encompass all research members except ILCAA research staff. The number of joint researchers outside ILCAA who can participate in each project is up to 20.

2. Requirements for Early-Career Challenge Program

- 1) The coordinator must be an early-career researcher (*).
- 2) Early-career researcher(s) must make a proposal and/or plan on their own initiative.
- 3) The project must consist of at least 3 members, including the coordinator.
- 4) Applicants must seek advice from an ILCAA research staff member before planning and submitting their application.

*The coordinator of this program must be a researcher who has obtained their doctorate within 8 years and has no experience serving as the coordinator of a joint usage/joint research project at any other joint research institution.

3. Project Duration

Up to 3 years

4. Qualifications, Rights, and Obligations of Joint Researchers and Coordinators

Please see “3. Qualifications, Rights, and Obligations of Joint Researchers and Coordinators” of the “AY 2027 Call for Joint Usage/Joint Research Projects (General Type), Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies.”

5. Coordinator and Co-Coordinator

Please see “4. Coordinator and Co-coordinator” of the “AY 2027 Call for Joint Usage/Joint Research Projects (General Type), Research Institute for Languages and Cultures of Asia and Africa (ILCAA), Tokyo University of Foreign Studies.”

6. Conditions for implementation of Joint Usage/Joint Research Projects

For details, please refer to the annex “Implementation Manual for ILCAA Joint Usage/Joint Research Projects (conducted in Japan).”

7. Number of Projects to be Accepted

Approximately 2-3 projects

8. Required documents for application

The following documents must be submitted. The applicants must use the forms downloaded from the ILCAA website and submit them in their original format (MS Word or MS Excel).

When submitting, each applicant must change the part 【Name_】 of the file name to the applicant’s name.

«ILCAA Website : https://www.aa.tufs.ac.jp/projects/joint_task/application/»

- a. Application Form for Joint Usage/Joint Research Projects (Early-Career Challenge Program) (Form 1)
- b. List of Project Members for the Joint Usage/Joint Research Project (Form 2)
※In principle, the addition of joint researchers is not permitted after the adoption.
- c. Application Form for Joint Researchers (please submit forms of all joint researchers)

9. Entry and Submission

The coordinator or a co-coordinator must make an application. All applications shall be made electronically.

- 1) Prior to application, the applicants must fill in the entry form on the ILCAA website.

Entry Deadline : Wednesday, August 19, 2026

- 2) After the entry is completed, an email containing the URL to submit application forms will be automatically sent to the applicant. Please upload all application forms to the specified URL by the following deadline.

Documents Submission Deadline : Friday, August 21, 2026

10. Screening and Result Notification

As the first step, paper screening will be conducted. The applicants (coordinators) who pass the paper screening will be required to give a presentation at the Review Committee for Joint Usage/Joint Research Projects, held on Saturday, October 17, 2026 (the travel expenses for attendance at the Review Committee will be covered within the scope of the TUFs regulations for travel expenses). All screening will be performed by the Advisory Committee for Research Collaboration, at which external committee members make up the majority. The screening results will be announced in November 2026 by the Director of ILCAA.

11. Contact

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* The adopted joint research projects will be implemented on the assumption that the AY2027 budget for joint research projects is approved.